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ANNUAL REPORT

OCTOBER 1 2010 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2011

FOOD, AGRIBUSINESS AND RURAL MARKETS (FARM) PROJECT

Contract: RAISE Plus Contract No. EDH-I-00-05-00005-00, Order No. 16

November 2011

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ACRONYMS

AAHI	Action Africa Help International
AgBC®	Agricultural Behavioral Change
AGRA	Alliance for Green Revolution for Africa
CAD	Country Agriculture Department (Government Office)
CBSVD	Cassava Brown Streak Variety Disease
CES	Central Equatoria State
CGIAR	Consultative Group in Agriculture Research
CMVD	Cassava Mosaic Variety Disease
COP	Chief of Party
COTR	USAID Contracting Officer Technical Representative
CPPG	Crop Production Planning Group
DCOP	Deputy Chief of Party
EES	Eastern Equatoria State
ERF	Environmental Review Form
ERR	Environmental Review Report
FaaB	Farming as a Business
FAO	United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization
FARM	Food, Agribusiness and Rural Markets
FBO	Farmer Based Organization
Feddán	Feddán (unit of area measuring 60m x 70m)
FOG	Fixed Obligation Grants
FPLC	Farmer Participatory Learning Center
GIS	Geographic Information System
GIZ	German Technical Cooperation
Ha	hectare (100m x 100m)
ICC	Internal Coordination Committee

ICRAF	World Agroforestry Centre
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IFDC	International Fertilizer Development Corporation Centre
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
IQC	Indefinite Quantity Contract
MAF	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
MFI	Micro Finance Institution
MSME	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
OPV	Open Pollinated Variety
P4P	Purchase for Progress (Program administered by World Food Programme)
PCC	Project Coordination Committee
PERSUAP	Pesticide Evaluation Report and Safe Use Action Plan
PMP	Performance Management Plan
PSA	Public Service Announcement
RFP	Request for Proposals
RSS	Republic of South Sudan
S4D	Seeds for Development
SRS	Sudan Radio Services
SSIDO	South Sudan Integrated Development Organization
SWOT	Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats
ToT	Training of Trainers
TPWG	Thematic Policy Working Group
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USG	United States Government
VCA	Value Chain Analysis
WES	Western Equatoria State
WFP	World Food Programme

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The FARM Project's first year laid a solid foundation for operational and technical activities throughout the life of the project. The project was launched by the USAID Administrator, Rajiv Shah, and has enjoyed a high level of visibility both within USAID, the Government of the Republic of South Sudan (RSS), and with partner and donor organizations. Launched after an important national election, the project's core mandate to work closely with national and state level governments, was slowed by post-election staff shuffling during the first months of the project. Since this time, The FARM Project has built a lasting partnership with government counterparts, and has been actively engaged in building the capacity of government to support the private sector and create an operational environment conducive to economic growth in the agriculture sector.

This last year was a distinctive period for South Sudan and The FARM Project. In particular, a groundbreaking event was the official independence of South Sudan on July 9, 2011 and all the momentum associated with this monumental change. It is a period that introduced Honorable Betty Achan Ogwaro as the new Minister for the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

A great deal of progress was made by the project during this period highlighted by the introduction of several key hires complementing our existing project team. Two successful seeds distributions were completed during the period. Forty additional farmer-based organizations (FBOs) were added to the project's network of local community-based FBOs, bringing the period-ending total to 225 FBOS. During this period, relationships and understanding of existing FBOs have significantly improved. Groundwork for a landmark national agriculture trade show has strengthened relationships with our government counterparts and the private sector. Work has advanced in a number of key technical areas such as agronomic practice improvements, agricultural behavior change, integrated pest management, post-harvest handling, and increasing land under cultivation. During the period, The FARM Project has welcomed two key partners, AGRA and IFDC, to the USAID agriculture team. The project looks forward to working with these organizations to optimize our collective impact in South Sudan.

The project solidified its management and technical leadership through a number of key hires during the period. This was highlighted by the introduction of David Hughes as the new Chief of Party for The FARM Project in August. The newly created Agriculture Production Component Lead position was filled by Costa Mwale and the vacated Trade and Marketing Component Lead position was filled by Nathan Emery. The Communication Specialist position has been filled by Astrid Haas. A number of key South Sudanese positions were also filled.

In November 2010, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry rolled out an aggressive agenda to increase food production in southern Sudan from current levels of about 700,000 metric tons (MT) of staple crop production per year to 2 million MT by 2013. To complement this agenda, the project shifted its focus from a variety of complementary value chains to an exclusive focus

on staple crop production of maize, sorghum, cassava and groundnuts. Therefore, two distributions were carried constituting 60 MT of certified maize seed, 40 MT of certified sorghum seed, 25 MT of groundnut seed and 102 MT of cassava stems to 185 FBOs in the project's service area. Remaining maize seed and some sorghum from our March 2011 program were also distributed during the period. Thirty-eight land plots were identified through coordination with state, county, and local government counterparts and local FBOs for farming demonstration plot sites. Planting has already begun in 14 of these locations. These sites will be used to visually demonstrate to farmers the benefits of using improved seed varieties and other agricultural inputs and adopting best agronomic practices to improving agricultural productivity. Work has also been initiated in a number of key technical areas that will directly impact agriculture production in South Sudan, including Integrated Pest Management, post-harvest handling, fallow land reclamation and mechanization.

Advancement was also accomplished in the project's Trade and Marketing Component during this period. A great deal of this work was focused on helping MAF plan and prepare for its first national agriculture trade fair scheduled in November 2011. The FARM Project helped the Ministry to develop its concept for the fair and then provided technical and managerial assistance and marketing support to the Ministry in organizing the fair. Much of this work is focused on helping the Ministry build its capacity to prepare for future agriculture fair events. The FARM Project's role of marketing the fair has enhanced its network of private sector organizations interested in doing business in agriculture in South Sudan. An important value chain assessment for the project's four main staple crops (maize, sorghum, cassava, and groundnuts) was also completed during the period. The report highlighted the need to seek production efficiencies to help farmers become more cost competitive as well as introduce some local processing capability. A number of market assessments were completed during the period to identify where gaps lie across the value chain in the Equatoria region of South Sudan. This information has been well received by the government and other development partners and provides a foundation of greater work in this area. Further to this, The FARM Project tested an open forum format in Yei where farmers and traders came together to discuss issues around transparency of cost. The program prompted a commitment by both traders and farming representatives to continue to strengthen ties between the two groups. The project also recommended to USAID areas where feeder roads should be rehabilitated to allow the areas with the highest producer capacity to have improved access to markets. The priority roads are Magwi to Labone; Kagelu to Morobo; and Morobo to Kajo-Keji.

Work in the Capacity Development Component has supported the other two components through a training of trainers model. The trainings have focused on best agronomic practices, which have gone hand-in-hand with the distribution of improved seeds. A second focus has been on post-harvest handling and warehouse management to begin reducing post-harvest losses for farmers. A training on post-harvest handling was undertaken in partnership with the Purchase for Progress (P4P) component of the World Food Programme (WFP) in each of the three states. A third focus has been support to Farming as a Business (FaaB), building the capacity of lead farmers to better understand the value of their farm and the opportunity it

presents to exploit trading opportunities. Nine FaaB trainings were conducted at the county level followed by three state-level FaaB trainings of trainers for Ministry and project staff.

The FARM Project has continued in close collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry to develop a set of draft policies and thus contribute to enhancing the regulatory environment for agriculture. This is particularly important since South Sudan became an independent nation on the 9th of July 2011. Five final draft policies on seed, plant protection, agriculture research, forestry, and training and capacity development have been completed and submitted to the Ministry. Most groundwork has been completed for three additional policy areas, including fertilizer, horticulture, and mechanization. Final draft submissions for these policy areas are planned for the upcoming semi-annual period.

The FARM Project is working in close coordination with its national, state, and local government counterparts as well as with other development partners in agriculture. It has been actively involved and often provides leadership in a number of working committees that are tasked with improving coordination within the agriculture sector in South Sudan. This includes the project's active participation in the MAF's Internal Coordination Committee (ICC) between the Ministry and its most significant donor programs as well as the newly established Greenbelt Committee created by donor programs working in the Greenbelt region to enhance coordination efforts. The FARM Project has also actively engaged with AGRA and IFDC to establish a strong partnership with these accomplished organizations to achieve USAID's objectives of supporting South Sudan's agriculture sector as well as working toward forming a joint workplan for the upcoming annual period.

I. INTRODUCTION

The USAID Food, Agribusiness and Rural Markets (FARM) Project is an integral part of the U.S. Government's development assistance program to South Sudan and is funded through the RAISE Plus (Raising Rural and Agricultural Incomes with a Sustainable Environment) Indefinite Quantity Contract (IQC). The FARM Project contributes to the Republic of South Sudan's (RSS) goals of achieving food self-sufficiency, reducing poverty and promoting economic growth through pursuit of its own overall assistance objective, which is to "increase food production in targeted areas of South Sudan."

The vision for The FARM Project is to promote sustained increases in food production by establishing the foundation for a viable and profitable commercial agricultural sector that enhances food security in South Sudan and provides opportunities for significant job creation and new business opportunities. One of the project's contributions to the development discussion in South Sudan has been to build consensus on the need to begin transitioning from a relief model to a market-driven approach for agricultural development. This approach is reflected in FARM's five-year strategy of sustainable development of the commercial agriculture sector in the three states of the country where the project operates.

Currently, The FARM Project and USAID are supporting the newly independent government of South Sudan and its recently appointed Minister within the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF). The project supports the MAF's strategy to rapidly increase food production over the next three years with the aim of producing 2 million MT of grain annually for South Sudan.

Objectives and Expected Results

Over its five-year duration, The FARM Project will increase agricultural productivity in selected commodities, increase agricultural trade, and improve the capacity of producers and private sector and public sector actors in South Sudan to develop commercial smallholder agriculture. The FARM Project will foster economic growth to reduce poverty and food insecurity by improving the competitiveness of staple food value chains.

As USAID's most comprehensive agricultural program in South Sudan, The FARM Project is taking a leadership role in the coordination of agricultural development initiatives of other development partners in the country. The FARM Project is providing technical assistance and capacity building support to South Sudan's MAF as well as to state-level ministries of agriculture.

I.1 PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

In support of the overall program objective to increase production of targeted agricultural commodities in the project's targeted areas, major program outcomes will include:

I.1.1 Agricultural Productivity

- Increased areas under cultivation within the targeted three Greenbelt states
- Higher yields per unit of land from which surpluses can be marketed
- Farmers making market-based decisions that result in a net profit

- Increased numbers of agricultural service providers (e.g., seed and fertilizer suppliers)
- Expansion of financial institutions into the agricultural sector with production loans

I.1.2 Agricultural Trade

- Increased volumes of smallholder products sold in markets
- Producers consistently meet market standards for timing, quality, and quantity of product
- Increased volume of value added/processed products from local agricultural production
- Increased willingness of financial institutions to provide loans through the entire value chain process

I.1.3 Capacity Building

Private Sector Capacity

- Emerging, small, medium, and producer organizations are able to plan and adapt production to market demand
- Selected value chains are more vertically integrated with enhanced business relationships
- Increased investment in commercial agriculture across the entire value chain/s

Public Sector Capacity

- RSS provides reliable quality services that are key for economic growth, e.g. plant and pest inspection
- State governments are able to develop sound strategies and plans that will support market-led agriculture
- Improvement in management capabilities of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry at state and county levels

Enabling Environment

- Taxation and trade policies do not inhibit trade and there is free movement of agricultural goods within South Sudan.
- Public services do not compete with the private sector nor distort market incentives in the provision of goods and services.
- Agriculture and food security policies and regulations help foster the growth of the agricultural sector in South Sudan.

I.2 ACTIVITIES COVERED IN THE REPORT

This report covers project activities between October 1, 2010, and September 30, 2011. In Section 2, critical changes in project leadership and management and scope of operations are addressed. In Section 3-5, the project's technical activities are outlined. Section 6 addresses activity on cross-cutting themes during the reporting period.

2. PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND SCOPE

2.1 CONSOLIDATION OF PROJECT LEADERSHIP, STAFFING AND MANAGEMENT

Considerable progress was made toward the consolidation of project leadership, staffing, and management during the current reporting period. These advancements will have lasting positive effects on project activities moving forward.

With respect to project leadership, Chief of Party (COP) Herschel Weeks left the project April 1, 2011. During an extended search and approval process that led to the identification and hiring of the new COP, leadership of the project was sustained by several interim COPs including Jeff Gould (who served from April 1 to June 9) and Mike Dockrey (June 10 to August 10). David Hughes, the project's new permanent COP, took his post on August 15, 2011.

In addition to establishing permanent leadership for the project going forward, numerous critical technical positions were filled during the current project reporting period. These include Production Component Leader, Markets and Trade Component Leader, Technical Program Coordinator, Communications Specialist, Finance and Business Enterprise Coordinator and the Capacity Building Coordinators.

Technical management of the project also was consolidated during this period, with a key advancement being the formation of a Crop Production Planning Group (CPPG). The CPPG is comprised of the project's senior agricultural production staff, the DCOP, and three production technical staff from each of the respective state-level project offices. The CPPG meets monthly to discuss and determine appropriate courses of action relating to ongoing technical programming; undertake advance planning; and address other ad hoc technical issues that may arise.

2.2 SHIFTS IN PROJECT TECHNICAL AND GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE

2.2.1 Cessation of Activities in Budi County

Due to ongoing insecurity in Budi County and the shooting deaths of two drivers of a vendor contracted to deliver cassava to Budi County, a decision was made to cease operations there and identify an alternative county in EES where the project could pursue activities. This decision was made by COP David Hughes with the support of USAID and followed discussions with key counterparts, such as the Acting State Minister of Agriculture and the Acting State Director General of EES's Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Cooperatives and Rural Development.

2.2.2 Programming Assessment of Torit County

Following the cessation of activities in Budi County, a proposal to include Torit County was made to USAID. Torit County was recommended by EES's Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Cooperatives and Rural Development as there are various payams in the county that lie within the Greenbelt region of South Sudan. Following initial indications of support from USAID, an in-depth feasibility study for inclusion of Torit County into project activities was undertaken in October.

2.2.3 Prioritization of Counties with Access to Markets

The project worked very closely with the State Ministry of Agriculture in the three Equatoria states. Within each state three counties were selected and within the three counties three payams were identified. Selection was based primarily on the agro-ecological potential and not on access to markets. At the direction of USAID South Sudan, The FARM Project has identified priority feeder roads for rehabilitation to increase farmer access to both inputs and markets. These priority roads include the road from Magwi to Labone; Kagelu to Morobo; and Morobo to Kajo-Keji. USAID also has instructed The FARM Project to look for other counties, including those outside the Greenbelt, where market access can be increased. The FARM Project will therefore undertake an assessment along the Juba to Nimule road in the southern part of Juba County during the next reporting period.

2.2.4 Supporting Expansion of Alternative Land Clearing and Land Preparation Strategies

In 2011, The FARM Project planned to plough 900 feddans for farmers in the project area through a grants program. Local service providers who had tractors and ploughs were to cultivate the land. A combination of limited de-stumped land and a dearth of tractors in good operating condition resulted in the project reaching roughly only one-third of its target. For the 2011-2012 land preparation period, the project will continue to work with service providers who are able to plough. The project will supplement this initiative with 12 two-wheel tractors procured in Juba. The tractors will be tested in each of the three states to measure their effectiveness in ploughing land for farmers. The FARM Project is also working to secure animal traction implements and oxen in areas where the concept of animal traction is understood by the local population.

3. COMPONENT I - AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY

The FARM Project aims to increase farm-level production and productivity of smallholder farmers through the expansion of the area of land under cultivation and the promotion of increased adoption of improved technologies and management practices. Specifically, it aims to increase yields through the provision of high-quality seeds and planting material with corresponding trainings in agronomic best practices as well as through the expansion of land under cultivation through the introduction of mechanization.

The FARM Project has initiated key interventions aimed at improving agronomic practices through improved technology and input adoption, specifically by introducing improved seeds and supporting mechanized farming. The project distributed over 217 MT of seed to 4,235 beneficiaries in its two distribution programs, which correspond to approximately 5,796 hectares under improved technology and management. All were all planted in the period under review. A total of 377 feddans were plowed through the project's innovative grants scheme on land preparation.

Farmers have also been introduced to enhanced technologies and production practices in various ways. FARM's extension staff will utilize Farmer Participatory Learning Centers (FPLC—formerly referred to as Farmer Field Schools), demonstration plots, and farmer-to-farmer exchanges to deliver technical agricultural training to project beneficiaries. A mass-media outreach strategy will also complement input distributions, and in-person trainings with messages about agricultural best practices for a broad audience.

Leading up to southern Sudan's Referendum on Independence, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry developed an ambitious set of goals aimed at propelling the soon-to-be independent country toward food security for its citizens. To complement this agenda, The FARM Project revised its year-one work plan to correspond with these priorities. While the original year-one work plan included interventions in a variety of complementary value chains (including livestock, poultry, honey and vegetables), the revised work plan focused strongly on staple crop production of maize, sorghum, cassava and groundnuts. Given this shift in focus, The FARM Project sought to transfer or postpone activities in the livestock, poultry, honey and vegetable sectors as much as possible.

3.1 IMPROVED SEEDS AND PLANTING MATERIALS

In late 2010, The FARM Project began discussions with USAID and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry to align its focus with the aforementioned three-year staple crop production objective initiated by the Minister. The added activities are consistent with FARM's efforts to address areas where large gaps exist between current farm-level production and agronomic potential with the aim of increasing production and yields of key staple food crops. In addition

to maize and sorghum, which were already slated for interventions in year one, the FARM team added groundnuts and cassava to the immediate work plan.

With the aim of increasing staple crop production, The FARM Project also distributed maize and sorghum seed in the first cropping seasons to formally organized FBOs (registered or in the process of registering) in all three Equatoria States for planting in March/April. The process utilized partner FBOs for distribution to their individual members, and was complemented by a previous training on good agricultural practices. Beneficiary farmers will return 30% of the amount of seed they received (15 kg maize \times 0.3=4.5 kg maize; and 8 kg sorghum \times 0.3 = 3.4 kg sorghum) in the form of grain after the harvest to their respective FBOs. In addition, some FBOs that were also recipients of FARM's plowing grants received seed with which to plant the FBOs' communal land.

During the reporting period, The FARM Project successfully completed the first seed distribution of 49.86 MT of maize and 25.912 MT of sorghum in the early part of the period. The distribution of a total of 141,540 kg of improved seed and planting materials to 141 FBOs for the second season was completed on August 14. A total of 185 FBOs with 4,235 members benefited from these two distributions. Table I summarizes the number of FBOs that received seeds in each state and the quantities of seeds distributed to each state during the year's distribution program.

Table I: Summary Results of Seed and Planting Material Distribution						
STATE	FBOs Served	Total Membership	Maize (MT)	Sorghum (MT)	Groundnuts (MT)	Cassava (MT)
EES	60	1,341	14.660	7.740	6.565	34.580
CES	51	1,307	21.945	11.064	10.245	33.200
WES	74	1,587	24.395	11.288	8.170	34.440
TOTAL	185	4,235	60.000	30.092	25.000	102.220
Grand Total Seed Distributed (MT)						217.312
Anticipated Total Seed Distribution (MT)						225.000
Proportion of target seed distribution achieved						97%

Improved varieties of maize, groundnut and sorghum seeds were distributed. The maize seed that was distributed was the OPV Longe 5 variety from Uganda. The seeds were tested for germination (94% for maize) and were treated with Imidacloprid, an insecticide, as well as Thiram, a fungicide, to protect them in storage. Overall, the project distributed 60 MT of maize seed. This amount is sufficient to plant 2,520 hectares when planted at a rate of 25kg/ha (10.5kg/feddan). All 25 MT of groundnut (Variety Red Beauty) seeds were distributed during the second season, sufficient for 313 hectares when planted at a rate of 80kg/ha (33.6kg/feddan). A total of 4.180 MT of sorghum seeds were distributed in the second season giving an overall total distribution of 30.092 MT, which is estimated to plant 2,737 hectares (6,514 feddans) in total. Although the project purchased certified sorghum seed of the Sekedo variety, it was determined in the review of the preliminary results of the first planting that the seed was impure; the seed was of a mixed standard. Most of the maize seed that was distributed in March 2011 was planted by farmers during April and May 2011. Most farmers chose not to plant their sorghum seed until the July/August planting rains.

A total of 102 MT of cassava stems of variety TME 14 was distributed in the second season and is expected to cover approximately 226 hectares (538 feddans), a rate of 450kg of stems per hectare (189kg/feddan). The cassava seed and planting material were procured from a supplier in Uganda following a competitive bidding process and regular field visits by members of the production team to ensure that adequate volumes of high quality material would be supplied. This protocol was particularly important given issues that arose in the field season's sorghum seed distribution where some farmers complained of the sorghum seed being a mix of sorghum varieties rather than the expected certified Sekedo sorghum.

Table 2: Summary of Seed Quantities Distributed in August 2011

State	Maize (kg.)	Groundnuts (kg.)	Cassava (kg.)	Sorghum (kg.)	Total (kg.) all seeds
CES	240	10,245	33,200	0	43,865
EES	6,260	6,585	34,580	3,240	50,665
VES	3,460	8,170	34,440	940	47,010
Total	10,140	25,000	102,220	4,180	141,540

The main challenges affecting the seed and planting material distribution were insecurity problems (for some counties) and poor road infrastructure. Other challenges included reluctance by some farmers to plant the sorghum provided by the project during the first rains because their traditional month of planting short season sorghum is in July. However, some farmers experimented with early planting and found that the sorghum was not of the variety that they had been promised. Uneven growth and non-uniform heads of the sorghum crop from this distribution were detected in July. After further review the project concluded that the certified seed purchased from a Ugandan seed vendor was mixed with substandard seed. The FBOs were informed about the degraded seed and most did not distribute this seed to member farmers for planting. The FARM Project is currently holding approximately 10 MT of undistributed sorghum seeds in Juba. While The FARM Project applied considerable due diligence for this procurement (including vendor site visits by project and MAF staff; germination testing; phytosanitary certification from the Ugandan Ministry of Agriculture; and receipt of formal MAF approval), it was unable to control the vendor's entire seed production process and therefore unable to detect the integrity of seed order before it was purchased. "Seed dumping" in South Sudan by regional vendors has been a long-standing practice. Abt Associates is currently coordinating with the USAID mission to negotiate restitution terms with the vendor to inhibit this practice going forward. However, this procurement dilemma strengthens the argument that seed production capacity must be developed within South Sudan for its future food security and that the project should work with MAF and partner organizations to streamline production of germplasm for distribution to farmers through in-country multiplication and the development of a private sector seed industry.

In the process of integrating the production and improved productivity with market development and in response to the increasing need for capacity building, the project formed a crop production planning group (CPPG), which meets monthly. The group has identified priorities for 2012 for each of the major crops and will be finalizing the procurement of maize, sorghum, groundnuts and cassava early in the next reporting period.

3.2 INCREASED AVAILABILITY OF APPROPRIATE CASSAVA VARIETIES

The FARM Project is collaborating with the MAF/RSS to expand the list of approved varietal material for cassava. The germplasm for these varieties were sourced from Uganda, which has released seven new varieties available for the regions with similar ecological zones. Five out of the planned seven cassava varieties were brought into the country for evaluation and validation. These varieties were MM96/4271, NASE 16, NASE 17, NASE 18 and NASE 19. The NASE series is being handled by the cassava research scientist from MAF while MM96/ 4271 is being tested with both farmers in one group in Eastern Equatorial State and with researchers at Palotaka Seed Basic Centre in Magwi County, Eastern Equatorial State. In August, a follow-up to check the performance of the four cassava varieties was made, showing that three of the four varieties under evaluation established (only NASE 16 did not establish).

Table 3: New Cassava Varieties Released in Uganda to be Validated with MAF/FARM					
Variety/Line	Series	CMVD Status	CBSVD Status	Under evaluation	Preliminary result
MH97/296I	NASE 13	Resistant	Tolerant	No	Not evaluated
MM96/427I	NASE 14	Resistant	Tolerant	Yes	Established
28-TME 14	NASE 15	Resistant	Tolerant	No (Control)	Already released
266-BAM	NASE 16	Resistant	High tolerance		Did not establish
349-KAK	NASE 17	Resistant	High tolerance	Yes	Established
109-TME 14	NASE 18	Resistant	High tolerance	Yes	Established
72-TME 14	NASE 19	Resistant	High tolerance	Yes	Established

Source: NaCRRI – Namulonge, Uganda (2011)

3.3 WEED, PEST AND DISEASE CONTROL USING INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM)

To develop a comprehensive Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Plan for South Sudan's agricultural sector, The FARM Project engaged an IPM expert who has worked with the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) CRISP Program. His work, which started in September 2011, included an assessment and evaluation of crop pests and the IPM methods available for their mitigation; customization of these methods to South Sudan's particular socio-economic, environmental, and farming systems; and the dissemination (and subsequent and ongoing revision) of these methods through development of curricula and training activities with public sector extension workers, FBOs and farmers. The work will be finalized and the report will be submitted in the first quarter of the next project year and will be reported in the next semi-annual report. The FARM Project plans to partner with Virginia Tech in this technical area in the future.

3.4 DEMONSTRATION PLOTS

Demonstration plots show farmers the benefits of improved seed varieties, adoption of best management practices and fertilizer application. During the reporting period, The FARM Project

established demonstration plots at state and county levels, which are managed by extension workers in collaboration with research technicians.

A training course on the implementation of demonstrations to various FBO beneficiaries was conducted in June 2011 to discuss the implementation strategy for the demonstration plots. The field staff focused on drawing up work plans and budgets for the implementation of these demonstration trials at all levels. The participants were also provided with information on procedures and criteria for selecting sites for mounting the demonstrations.

A total of 38 plots out of a target of 39 demonstration sites were identified. Of these, 11 were selected for state and county levels while 27 were selected for the payam level. The project now refers to the 27 payam plots as Farmer Participatory Learning Centres (FPLCs). Following the selection of the location of demonstration plots, the preparation of the plots commenced, which included collection of soil samples, to allow for August planting. In August, 15 feddans were plowed for the demonstration plots at county and state level while 27 feddans were ploughed for FPLCs. In September, monitoring of demonstration trial work was done. Central Equatoria State has been the most successful in setting up its demonstration plots. Of the 12 sites identified, 11 have been planted. In Eastern Equatoria State, seven sites were prepared and three were planted with sorghum and cassava stems. Although all nine sites were prepared in Western Equatoria State, none were planted because the land was plowed too late for planting. The remaining demonstration sites will be completed during the next planning year from the first planting season onwards, and preparation for the implementation is underway.

Table 4: Status on County Demonstration Plots in the Three States							
State/ County	Payam	Names	Target feddans	Achieved	Land preparation completed	Planting completed	Demonstration of cultural practices under way
State:	Nyong	Bur	2.0	2.0	Y	N	
County: Magwi	Magwi	Magwi II	1.0	1.0	Y	N	
County: Ikwoto	Ikwoto Central	Ifune	1.0	1.0	Y	Y	Y
County: Budi	Komiri	Chukudum	1.0	0.0	Activity stopped due to insecurity		
Total EES		4	5.0	4.0			
State: CES	TBD	TBD	10				
County: Yei	Yei	Yei Demo. Plot	2	1	Y	Y	Y
County :Morobo	Gulumbi	Morobo Demo. Plot	2	1	Y	Y	Y
County: Kajokeji	Lire	Kajokeji Demo. Plot	2	1	Y	Y	Y
Total CES		4	16	3			
State:	Yambio	Akorobodi / Saura	4	2	Y	N	N
County:	Yambio	Namadu	2	2	Y	N	N
County:	Maridi	Kwanga	2	2	Y	N	N
County:	Mundri West	Yanga	2	2	Y	N	N
Total WES		4	10	8			
TOTAL Achievement 48%			31	15			

3.4.1 Farmer Participatory Learning Centers (FPLCs)

A Farmer Participatory Learning Center (FPLC) is a one-feddan plot at a payam level, which is run by an FBO. It is integral both to FARM's capacity building agenda, and to the effort to rapidly increase staple crop production among the beneficiary population. It involves farmers in the decision-making processes and encourages learning through hands-on implementation of best agronomic practices. The FARM Project aims to establish one FPLC in each payam.

These field sites will serve as valuable hands-on learning centers where farmers, government extension agents, and cooperative members can be introduced to improved technologies and best practices from planting to post-harvest handling and marketing.

Payam-level extension staff were trained to facilitate the FPLCs. In anticipation of the centers, a short-term technical consultant was brought in to help prepare educational materials and a communications strategy for improving agricultural productivity. These materials and strategies will be delivered principally through the FPLCs.

The selection of state-level plots for FPLCs was an activity that took place in close coordination with the state-level MAF. Because the County Agricultural Department (CAD) is in charge of land allocation, the specific selection typically took place through liaising with this office directly. Once The FARM Project submitted a request for a site, the CAD identified a number of possible plots for FARM to view. In dialogue with the CAD office, FARM staff then visited the sites to ascertain their suitability based on a variety of criteria:

- Size should be at least four feddans of cultivatable land;
- Plot should have a vegetative cover (not forested or with high density of trees);
- Soil types should be representative of the region and of good texture and depth;
- Slope / waterways should be conducive to basic mechanization. This means, no slopes >5% or near watercourses (this is important to mitigate erosion—although erosion control techniques may be included into the curriculum if necessary); and
- High visibility and easy accessibility. (The chief aim here is to make sure the demonstrations have maximum impact through a wide audience, as well as being easily accessible by major roads.)

After the final selection is made, an agreement is signed with the CAD, as well as the landlord or community. A budget is then established for rent, inputs, infrastructure development (such as fencing), labor and security. For maximum community buy-in, these costs are ideally shared by the community in return for rent or crop-share options.

Similarly, for the selection of **payam level FPLC** plots, the team coordinates closely with the CAD, payam extension officer, and the community. The same general parameters are applied as with the state-level FPLCs, but the plots are generally smaller (around one feddan). Other criteria for the payam level FPLC sites include:

- Crop specific suitability (for maize, sorghum, groundnut and cassava);

- Proximity to farmers and FBOs who are beneficiaries of The FARM Project's seed distribution program (with consideration for encouraging women's participation when possible); and
- Consideration given as to practicality with regards to number of FBOs in payam; ensure a more equitable workload for payam extension workers.

Verification for 25 out of 27 plots has been completed. The only sites that could not be verified were in two payams in Budi County. This was due to insecurity in the region. Soil samples were collected from all sites but challenges and delays in getting the samples to Nairobi has meant that an analysis of the sites was not completed during this reporting period. Land preparation was completed in all of the identified sites, except for the ones in Budi. In 14 of the prepared sites planting was undertaken together with farmers from FBOs. For the plots where planting was not completed by the end of September the activity was halted.

Table 5: Status of FPLCs in Payams of Each County in the States					
County	Payam	Names site	Land preparation completed	Planting completed	Demonstration of cultural practices underway
CES					
Yei	Mugwo	Jambo General Purpose Cooperative society	Y	Y	Y
	Ottogo	Dumo Farmers' cooperative society	Y	Y	Y
	Lasu	Lasu Progressive Farmers' Association	Y		
Morobo	Gulumbi	Loketa Farmers' Cooperative	Y	Y	Y
	Kimba	Kimba Rice Growers' Cooperative	Y	Y	Y
	Wudabi	Ajugi Highlands Farmers Group	Y	Y	Y
Kajokeji	Lire	Mandikolok Farmers Training Center	Y	Y	Y
	Kangapo 1	Abonginikin Women Farmers Group	Y	Y	Y
	Kangapo 2	Jalimo Farmers Training Center	Y	Y	Y
EES					
Ikwoto	Lomohidang North	Ingwa Tafa FBO	Y	Y	
	Ikwoto Central	Lobuho FBO	Y		
	Katire	Nigoge FBO	Y	Y	
Magwi	Magwi	Konyi komi	Y		
	Pajok	Pe koyo	Y		
	Pageri		Y		
Budi	Komiri	Konyokonyo	On hold due to insecurity		
	Ngaric	N/A	On hold due to insecurity		
	Nagicod	N/A	On hold due to insecurity		
WES					
Yambio	Bangasu	Bangasu	Y		
	Ri-rangu	Ri-rangu	Y		
	Yambio	Bodo / Gitigiri	Y		
Maridi	Maridi	Yokodoma	Y		
	Mambe	Malaga	Y		
	Landili	Sukulugaba	Y		
Mundri West	Mundri	Okari	Y		
	Kotobi	Garambele	Y		
	Bangalo	Bari / Medewu	Y		

3.5 MECHANIZED LAND PREPARATION

During the war many farmers abandoned farming. Their fallow lands grew trees as they were left uncultivated for as long as 22 years. This has made land preparation throughout the Equatorias very challenging. Mechanized land preparation (reclamation, plowing and harrowing) will allow for significant increases in the amount of land under cultivation, and enable more efficient cultivation, planting, weed control and harvest. These, in turn, will increase productivity, and reduce labor requirements, resulting in reduced costs of production and increased competitiveness. Mechanization also will reduce the burden of farm labor, particularly for women and children.

The fallow land reclamation initiative began with the preparation of an environmental evaluation of the proposed activities (submitted to USAID for approval during the previous reporting period), which recommended parameters for the selection of land for reclamation activities. During the current reporting period, a consultant was contracted to establish a set of “Good Land Stewardship” practices as well as a practical model for their implementation. The consultant visited South Sudan in June and again in September of this year. During each visit he held technical consultative meetings with key counterparts, such as the MAF, USAID and UN-FAO. He also met with some FBOs, which have been identified as potential beneficiaries of the activity for mapping of their fields and an assessment of the conservation and cultivation practices currently in use.

Through the innovative grants facility program, a total of 377 feddans were ploughed through mechanized land preparation. Although 900 feddans were targeted, major challenges were encountered. These included the lack of availability of reliable service providers (tractors) to plough; high costs of ploughing per feddan; frequent breakdowns of equipment; and the unavailability of spare parts for maintenance of equipment. In order to achieve the 900 feddans in the coming months, The FARM Project will undertake a thorough assessment of available service providers. Due to the limited availability of working tractors throughout the country, The FARM Project has explored alternative plowing options, such as ox-plows and two-wheel tractors.

Table 6: Land Plowing Targets and Results				
State	Target area (feddans)	Plowed to date	Balance	Remarks
Eastern Equatoria	300	35	265	Limited number of service providers
Central Equatoria	300	218	82	Inadequate tractor service providers
Western Equatoria	300	124	176	Limited number of service providers
Total	900	377	523	42% achieved with available service providers

3.6 SMALL RUMINANT PROGRAMMING

The FARM Project also identified potential to make an important investment in the small ruminant herd in Western Equatoria state. After years of war and insecurity perpetuated by the Lord's Resistance Army, the goat population in the state has been strongly affected both in numbers and in its robustness. Goats found in that region are significantly smaller and less robust than in other parts of South Sudan, a challenge that FARM addressed through its hybrid vigor initiative. In addition, the majority of meat consumed in Yambio County was either imported domesticated meat (such as goat) or bush-meat. The practice of hunting wild animals has led to a dwindling animal population in the state, adding an environmental layer to this food security issue. In order to re-stock the livestock in the state as well as boost the animal's genetic traits, FARM, through its in-kind grant program, supplied high quality breeding stock to selected communities. The intervention was designed so that individuals would receive a small breeding herd (consisting of six goats, one male and five females) and would then pass on the first female offspring to a secondary beneficiary.

Six hundred goats were procured for distribution to The FARM Project beneficiaries in Western Equatoria. During the first round, 58 producers received a total of 382 goats in Yambio and Ri-rangu. The remaining 215 were delivered to Bangasu. FARM principal beneficiaries of this intervention were women, widows and vulnerable Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) - almost half of beneficiaries were women. Each beneficiary received management training and assistance with veterinary care. Because the goats were selected in part for their reproductive qualities (in particular giving birth twice a year and a tendency to produce twins or triplets), the multiplication of the herd and improved goat genetics should be seen before long.

Table 7: Goat Distribution						
	No. of male and female goats distributed		No. of offspring	Distribution of beneficiaries		
	Male	Female		Male	Female	Total
Payam						
Yambio	47	235	160	24	23	47
Ri-rangu	28	140	132	14	14	28
Bangasu	29	145	9	13	16	29
Total	104	540	301	51	53	104

Monitoring of the goat-restocking program was conducted in September with nearly one-quarter (23 out of 104) of the beneficiaries visited. Inadequate husbandry was noted. The assessment addressed survival and reproduction rates for the goats, and mortality for kids, as summarized in the table below. Mortality among the breeding stock was attributed to respiratory infection, diarrhea and loss of appetite, although theft, relocation, sale or consumption was possible.

Table 8: List of Survival Rates for Distributed Goats					
	Survival rates for distributed goats (%)		No. of offspring born		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
Payam					
Yambio	90	88	117	43	160
Ri-rangu	67	35	65	67	132
Bangasu	60	43	8	1	9
TOTAL			190	111	301

3.7 HONEY PRODUCTION

Recognizing the importance of honey as a supplementary income-generation activity (and one that can complement other agricultural activities by being completed during the dry season), The FARM Project assessed the existing honey associations in Maridi in July 2010. After identifying four honey producer associations a regional honey specialist conducted an in-depth value chain and market assessment in November 2010. His findings confirmed expectations that honey is a highly productive and profitable enterprise for the area, and ample opportunities for value-added activities exist. He provided specific recommendations on how to further develop the sector through modest technical investments and extension activities (including filtering the honey and exporting bees wax). Given the shift toward staple crop production, FARM met with the German aid organization GIZ to provide a copy of the honey value chain analysis, as well as advice on other preliminary findings. FARM and GIZ developed complementary approaches to minimize redundancy. While The FARM Project is investing in staple crop production, GIZ is beginning work in the honey sector.

4. COMPONENT 2. TRADE AND MARKETING

Markets are critical to the success of any commercial enterprise in the agricultural sector. However, weak infrastructure, poor business linkages and a virtually nonexistent market information system limit access to markets throughout the Equatorias. The FARM Project has therefore been working to increase smallholders' access to and availability of market services, particularly along critical trade routes. The FARM Project is also undertaking initiatives to improve the legal, regulatory, and policy environment that governs marketing and trade.

Agricultural marketing presents great challenges to many producers who lack knowledge and skills on how to identify, access, evaluate, and plan for marketing opportunities. Among others, reluctance to look for markets, lack of knowledge on existing markets, and difficulties in identifying and addressing market opportunities and constraints warrant the need to build the marketing capacity of farmers and FBOs.

4.1 FARMING AS A BUSINESS (FAAB)

One of The FARM Project's key objectives is to build the capacity of producer organizations, agribusinesses, and smallholder farmers to embrace modern business approaches in order to effectively increase their productivity and access to markets. To address this objective, The FARM Project's Farming as a Business (FaaB) training program gives farmers and producer organizations the skills necessary to evaluate markets, develop crop and business budgets, as well as source financing to support their activities. During the first year of The FARM Project, the FaaB curriculum for South Sudan was developed and both TOT and farmer-level trainings were conducted.

The implementation of the FaaB training program evolved through several steps. First, pilot trainings of 100 farmers (54 men and 46 women) were conducted in October 2010, to test the generic FaaB curriculum. Then, the curriculum was revised based on the feedback gained from the pilot trainings. Upon review and approval by relevant government partners, this revised curriculum, which had been tailored to the particular circumstances in The FARM Project's area, was then implemented in the form of a TOT program at the state level. A total of 40 field officers (30 men and 10 women) were trained in three TOT trainings that were conducted in Yambio, Yei and Torit in December 2010. Two-thirds of these were from RSS Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the Ministry of Cooperatives & Rural Development at the State and County levels. Through these trainings, The FARM Project built a pool of trained facilitators from among FARM field staff, and government Ministries at the state and county level. Over the last few months, these trainers have been implementing FaaB trainings across all three states, training 166 participants (104 men and 62 women).

The FaaB training is designed to assist farmers in important processes such as developing a business plan, by-laws, and budgets. A formal analysis of production costs has also been integrated into the FaaB program to help farmers make better investment decisions, as well as

be used to inform further cropping interventions by The FARM Project. In customizing the curriculum for South Sudan, it was found that there was a particular need for basic literacy and financial management among project beneficiaries. A formal analysis of production costs has also been integrated into the FaaB program to help farmers make better investment decisions, as well as be used to inform further cropping interventions by The FARM Project. The revised FaaB manual reflected these findings, and the curriculum was adapted to respond to these additional contextual challenges.

Based on the successful implementation of ToT in FaaB in Year One, the activities under FaaB were expanded to other FBOs during the reporting period. The FaaB training was then conducted in June in Pageri Payam, Eastern Equatoria State. The training topics on FaaB outlined above were covered and three business plans were developed for three farmers groups. A total of 35 participants (14 female) attended the workshop. The main achievements of the trainings were that these farmer groups developed business plans with clear goals, objectives, SWOT analysis and cash flow projections. They developed three- to five-year strategic plans and marketing strategies. As a result, they also decided to start requesting monthly subscription fees to support their organization and to increase the area under cultivation.

Further to the FaaB trainings, The FARM Project developed an FBO capacity assessment tool to evaluate capacities of organizations with respect to production, finance and business management skills. This assessment has been merged with an overall FBO assessment tool that The FARM Project is currently developing.

4.2 VALUE CHAIN ASSESSMENTS

For farmers to grow from subsistence to commercial agriculture they require information on markets, buyer preferences, cost structures, prices, and aspects of selling to different markets. To facilitate this transition, The FARM Project conducted a value chain assessment (VCA) for the project's focal crops: maize, cassava, sorghum and groundnuts. The objective of these assessments was to provide an overview analysis of the selected value chains to suggest an upgrading strategy for each value chain and to provide recommendations on what the priorities for each sector should be. The general findings for all the value chains were that they are flat and immature. Furthermore, South Sudan has a weak competitive position in these selected crops, some of which stems from weak support markets. However, substantial potential in each of the value chains exists if incentive structures are developed where the private sector leads investment and upgrading in these sectors. The main recommendations from the assessment included focusing on increasing productivity, improving post-harvest handling and initial processing, and targeting the development of key support markets.

The report, presented to the former Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Dr. Anne Itto during the last week in July, received highly favorable feedback as one of the most comprehensive value chains that has been conducted in South Sudan to date. Following an invitation by the now Deputy Minister for Agriculture and Forestry, Beda Machar Deng, the project also made a summary presentation of the report's findings and recommendations to a wider audience of government officials and other donors working in agriculture during the Internal Coordination Committee (ICC) meeting in September.

4.3 MARKET ASSESSMENTS

In order to gauge market users' viewpoints on the extent to which different constraints in market outlets present an impediment to the expansion of trade in key commodities, The FARM Project carried out market assessments. These assessments explored possible resolutions to these constraints and how these resolutions can best be implemented. The focus, wherever possible, promotes private sector solutions through capacity building, grants competitions, and provision of technical assistance.

Three rapid appraisals were conducted in the Equatoria States of the Green Belt Zone during January and February 2011. During these field trips, potential markets and some major buyers (wholesalers, retailers, processors including input suppliers) were identified (see Tables 1 & 2). The team also initiated discussion with some NGOs, including FAO, Zoa Refugee Care & UMCOR who procure grain and ground nut seeds from farmers for onward sale. The three market studies were conducted in Juba, Yei and Nimule.

State	County	Total number of traders	Male	Female	Type of businesses
CES	Juba	6	6	0	Wholesales, retail sales & company
	Yei	16	12	4	Wholesales, retail sales, company, processors and input suppliers
	Kajokeji	2	2	0	Input suppliers
	Morobo	2	2	0	Input suppliers
Total			22	4	

The rural markets visited throughout the Greenbelt were mainly dominated by local producers while in the state capitals the markets were found to have a strong presence of both local traders and imported produce. Juba is the main market for a wide range of commodities including fresh produce. Nimule is the main point of entry for produce originating from Uganda, with a number of secondary routes servicing the state and county capitals. Yei has the most established market infrastructure and is indicative of the regions production capacity, especially in maize and groundnut. Overall, the team obtained a clear understanding of the pricing, distribution and market linkages, which they recorded and collated to inform possible interventions. One constraint that was identified for traders and wholesalers was the lack of quality control of locally-grown staple crops. This underscores the need for farmers to understand and respond to quality demands of the consumer and re-enforces the need for better post-harvest handling and storage practices.

State	County	Number of markets
CES	Yei	3
	Morobo	2
	Kajo keji	1
EES	Torit	1
	Budi	2
	Magwi	2
	Ikotos	1

State	County	Number of markets
WES	Yambio	2
	Maridi	3
	Mundri	2
Other markets identified outside the greenbelt zone		
CES	Juba	3
Total markets		21

Based on these rapid appraisals, a database was developed in September to analyze and interpret assessment results. This led to the development of a market assessment tool. In September, a team from The FARM Project travelled to Rumbek in Lakes State to test this tool and assess the capacity and interest of Rumbek traders, who are well-placed to provide a potential market source for Western Equatoria State. Prior to conducting the assessment, the team met with key counterparts in the State Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry to assess the agricultural production and marketing in the state. The State Chamber of Commerce supported the team in identifying major traders. The questionnaire was conducted with retailers and micro-sellers for maize flour and groundnut paste. Two important findings from this assessment include: retailers and sellers use a variety of measures when they are buying/selling crops; and there are opportunities for micro-sellers to organize and expand trading activities, which needs to further explored.

A total of 11 market assessments will be conducted. Nine will be within the Greenbelt zone in Yei, Yambio, Torit, Obbo, Chukudum, Mundri, Ombasi, Jalimo and Bangashu. The remaining two will be carried out in Wau and Juba to identify further markets outside The FARM Project area of operation and reinvigorate the pre-war intraregional trade.

4.4 SUPPORTING PRIVATE SECTOR SERVICES

Gaps and constraints within the private sector in South Sudan have been identified through a preliminary Input-Service Needs Assessment, written in August. This initial assessment evaluates the capacity of agricultural inputs and service suppliers and their role in supporting farmers to increase agricultural productivity. When this assessment is carried out more thoroughly, it will cover a wider range of stakeholders. The initial assessment has also identified a variety of recommendations to fill gaps, including trainings, to help build the capacity of selected private sector agents.

4.5 FIRST AGRICULTURAL TRADE FAIR – SOUTH SUDAN

As part of a strategy to spur economic development in a predominantly agricultural economy, the project is supporting an agricultural trade fair. Such a fair provides a venue to introduce products to the international market, exposes farmers to modern methods of production, and enables buyers and sellers to source farm inputs, services and financing. Agricultural trade fairs in other countries have been highly successful in bringing products to the attention of international buyers and revitalizing agricultural trade in the country.

An agricultural trade fair in South Sudan will provide national and international participants with the opportunity to facilitate business deals for agriculture products and equipment. They will

learn more about investing in the agribusiness sector in the country and showcase new agricultural technologies and services to one of the fastest growing markets in East Africa.

The FARM Project is supporting MAF/RSS to work with other line ministries and all 10 states in implementing the First Agricultural Trade Fair—South Sudan. The Fair will take place at the Nyakuron Cultural Center in Juba, from November 9th to 12th. The fair will be a high-profile event with national and regional/international exhibitors and visitors. It will allow businesses to network and identify trading partners. As part of the fair, The FARM Project will bring lead farmers from its FBOs to display their goods, see technologies that are available in agriculture, and to forge business deals with investors. This will be an opportunity to expose FBOs to agricultural service and input suppliers. Farmer and FBO participation in the agricultural trade fairs will be guided using an educational programming approach that helps farmers to understand how they can benefit from participation, how to evaluate different technological options that they might be exposed to, and approach and form relationships with different types of service providers.

Preparations for the fair were initiated when The FARM Project facilitated a training workshop in June in Juba. The training brought together 28 participants from various key line ministries and nongovernmental organizations. Notable participants included Dr. Anne Itto, former Minister for Agriculture and Forestry, Mr. Beda Machar Deng, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Forestry and Michael Dockrey, Acting Chief of Party, The FARM Project. Workshop participants learned about agricultural trade fairs conducted in Afghanistan, a country with similar circumstances to South Sudan. The participants then planned and mapped an organizational chart as well as a work plan and budget for South Sudan's first Agricultural Trade Fair, which were approved by the former Minister of Agriculture, Dr. Anne Itto. Another outcome of the training was the formation of technical and operational subcommittees in addition to the agricultural trade fair steering committee.

In July 2011, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Forestry (and then Undersecretary), Beda Machar Deng, led a delegation of RSS officials and project staff on a study tour to the Agricultural Trade Fair in Jinja. The delegation met with the Uganda National Farmers Federation President and his team to discuss how the Agricultural Trade Fair is organized and has evolved over the 19 years in Uganda. The South Sudan delegation met with 66 key vendors and traders to develop a potential list of invitees. These and an additional two local businesses have been contacted through emails to ascertain their interest in participating in the fair. The delegation was also received by the President of Uganda, H.E. Yoweri Musveni, as guests of the Ugandan National Federation of Farmers.

An Agricultural Trade Fair Committee was then established, which had representation from project staff and key departments from the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment, Ministry of Animal Resources and Fisheries as well as the Central Equatoria State Ministry for Agriculture and Forestry. The committee split themselves into different working groups. The committee established the technical focus of the fair, commenced the operational set up and prepared the necessary documents for the successful implementation of an agricultural fair.

The FARM Project was requested to take over the communications component of the fair. As the Agricultural Trade Fair will be a nationwide initiative, the communication products were widely disseminated through the country through an agreement with Miraya FM. This is the

only radio station that has good coverage throughout all the states of South Sudan. After the production of radio advertisements for the fair in English and local Arabic, Miraya FM agreed to broadcast the advertisements across the country on a regular basis leading up to the fair. Additionally, a range of communications products were designed and developed. These included fliers, posters, brochures and an invitation card for the opening ceremony. Furthermore, a website for the fair (www.agfairsouthsudan.org) was developed by Abt Associates, the prime partner of The FARM Project.

In September 2011, seven participants, including four from the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, attended the Nairobi International Trade Fair, held at Jamhuri Park in Kenya. Their objective was to gain a better understanding of the organizational and technical aspects of running a major trade fair in the region and recruit new agribusinesses to attend the First Agricultural Trade Fair in South Sudan. The delegation from South Sudan met with the fair organizers, the Kenya National Federation of Agricultural Producers and the Agricultural Society of Kenya, which oversees the management of all the trade fairs in Kenya.

During the reporting period, nine steering committee meetings were conducted to discuss progress, achievements, and constraints as well as develop weekly work plans for South Sudan's Agricultural Trade Fair. These meetings were instrumental in addressing constraints faced by members. By September, 30 international businesses as well as five local businesses had registered for the fair.

4.6 ESTABLISHING LINKS WITH FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS ACROSS SOUTH SUDAN

Over the course of a month, The FARM Project conducted a financial instruments survey to identify current availability of financial instruments and plans for the future. Furthermore, the survey sought to gauge the terms and conditions that farmers face in accessing these services. Fifteen banks, including the Bank of South Sudan, and microfinance institutions (MFIs) were assessed across Central, Eastern and Western Equatoria States. The overall findings indicate that financial institutions in South Sudan are willing to undertake agricultural lending. They are moving forward with this by sending credit officers to be trained on agricultural lending. However, they are constrained by a non-conducive regulatory and policy environment. Furthermore, MFIs, which are currently not regulated in South Sudan, are willing to lend to farmers as well, but require financial support to undertake this.

The FARM Project is developing financial literacy tools as part of its capacity building program and providing training to producer organizations, including FBOs, and other agribusinesses to increase their capacity to access and manage outside finance.

4.7 LINKING COMMODITY BUYERS TO FBOS

A Marketing Specialist (who joined the team in December), undertook a program of identifying and promoting market linkages between local farmers and buyers. Results of her analysis show that in many cases farmers do not know how to identify or pursue market opportunities; instead they wait for “the market to come to them”. In light of this, she has facilitated contacts

between four FBOs and 12 local traders (located in Juba and Yei) who would like to purchase groundnuts, maize, and sorghum from them.

Through the market linkage initiative, traders (specifically in CES) were made aware of existing sources of agricultural commodities. Most were unaware that the products they sought were available from local farmers. Contacts between traders and FBOs were thus established. In March 2011, the Kimba Rice Growers' Association and Pajimugun Farmers' Association sold 6.1 tons of maize to traders in Yei. Now that the linkage has been established, The FARM Project is optimistic that more transactions will take place as several FBOs still have produce in storage. By linking growers and traders, FARM has created the foundation for an ongoing business relationship between these parties. FARM intends to replicate this initiative in both Eastern and Western Equatoria where linkages with major outlets in Wau and Rumbek will be pursued.

Sales resulting from linkages facilitated by The FARM Project

Association	Commodities	Quantities/ metric tons	Value/SDG	Value/\$
Kimba Rice Growers' Association	Maize grain	2.0	2,000	800
	Maize grain	1.6	1,600	640
Pajimugun Farmers' Association	Maize grain	1.5	1,500	600
	Maize grain	1.0	1,000	400
Total		6.1	6,100	2,440

Source: From farmers and traders. Exchange rate considered \$1 = 2.5 SDG

The FARM Project has also helped forge crucial market linkages between farmers and large-scale institutional buyers. Notably, in collaboration with the WFP's Purchase for Progress (P4P) program, FARM is working to identify strategic warehouse locations, and is also advising WFP on FBOs that have been assisted. In return, WFP plans to negotiate possible purchases from these FBOs in the coming years.

In September in Yei, The FARM Project brought together traders, county agricultural department officials and FBO representatives to discuss the transparency in costing within markets. The representatives from the FBOs were excited to have a forum with traders and recommended that such a forum be repeated to include service providers and input suppliers. The traders (five from Jigomoni market and three from Dar Salaam Market) applauded the forum and saw its potential to revive trade, build trust with the farmers and ensure transparency in these working relationships. As a result of the forum, a working group was established between trader and farmer representatives, with both FBO and trader representatives, to help further and strengthen trading ties. This committee will explore negotiating prices for selling as well as modalities and transparency in cost calculating.

To assess demand from traders and FBO inventory of various products, The FARM Project developed a market tracker. This user-friendly instrument allows insertion of kilograms of maize, sorghum, cassava and groundnuts that are demanded and supplied as well as inserts the price that is offered or demanded for these commodities. The market-tracker will allow The FARM Project to help match traders and farmers for business deals in the future.

4.8 STAGING POINTS

In June and July an assessment of warehouses around the three Equatoria states was undertaken, based on pre-determined selection criteria. Existing FBO warehouses were evaluated to gauge their capacity and their need for upgrading. A follow-up assessment will determine GIS coordinates of these sites and their proximity to farms, roads and markets. This will be done in conjunction with the FBO assessment to ensure that the staging points are as central as possible with relation to farmers and feeder roads.

4.9 POST-HARVEST HANDLING, STORAGE AND PROCESSING TECHNOLOGIES AND MANAGEMENT FOR STAPLE CROPS

A key component of the program is the promotion of improved post-harvest handling, storage and processing technologies and methods. These practices have the potential to help reduce post-harvest losses, which are consistently high in South Sudan and account for considerable crop loss each year. To assess which intervention is most suitable for the South Sudanese context, in terms of ease of production, dissemination and efficacy, The FARM Project is testing a variety of different storage options at a state and a county level during the second harvesting season of this year.

4.9.1 Improved On-Farm Maize Storage Bins/Cribs

During the reporting period, designs were drawn up for improved grain drying cribs to be used at the farm level. These cribs, based on models currently in use in South Sudan, represent simple but effective improvements, focusing on increasing drying rates while reducing losses due to insect, rodent, and rain damage. These cribs are designed to be affordable, durable, practical and easy for farmers to erect and maintain. The designs for the cribs have been finalized and will be produced for the trials.

4.9.2 GrainPro Zip-up Mats

GrainPro Zip-up Mats are relatively low-cost and have the ability to increase drying rates, reduce exposure to pests, and protect the grain from adverse climatic conditions as they have zip-up covers that can be closed during periods of rain. Depending on the results of these mats during the evaluation phase, additional purchases and distribution will be pursued as appropriate. In addition, the project will purchase 12 GrainPro hermetically sealed GrainSafes and distribute them to the state and county demonstration plots to be evaluated as an alternative storage option.

4.9.3 Metal Silos

Silos form an important element of The FARM Project's post-harvest commodities handling and processing activities as they offer a low-cost solution to on-farm grain storage. They can be produced using local manufacturing capacity making them a potentially sustainable technology. The FARM Project will explore local manufacturing technology transfers from a Kenyan-based metal silo-manufacturing firm. This company has been trained by CIMMYT's Effective Grain Storage Project in Kenya to manufacture a simply-designed silo made of galvanized steel. These

locally-produced smallholder farm silos can be manufactured in South Sudan, and the skills transfer used as the basis of post-harvest storage systems small-business start-ups throughout the three Equatoria states. In August, the project took delivery of 30 silos, each of 2.5 MT capacity, and project staff in Juba were trained by the silo manufacturer on their proper use and maintenance. The silos were distributed among the three state sites and extension workers at the state level were trained in their use and maintenance. The FARM Project also developed a user-friendly manual for these metal silos.

4.10 IMPROVING AND MAINTAINING CRITICAL POINTS ON HIGH PRIORITY TRADE ROUTES

During Year One, The FARM Project identified critical points along high priority trade routes where improvement would be instrumental to the development of agricultural trade in the Greenbelt. During the reporting period, donors have held discussions with both Ministry of Agriculture staff at the central and state level to prioritize feeder roads that require rehabilitation and repair. The FARM Project has been consulted regarding the prioritization of these roads both for the purposes of farmers' access to markets as well as to identify roads in need of repair in areas of high potential production. The three main inter-county routes requiring improvement are Magwi to Labone, Kagelu to Morobo and Morobo to Kajo-Keji. Additionally, improvements in the road system in and around Yambio are a priority for Western Equatoria.

5. COMPONENT 3 - CAPACITY BUILDING

Capacity building is fundamental to The FARM Project's mission. The FARM Project's capacity building strategy is based on an understanding that true and transformational learning is an iterative and developmental process in which information must not only be received (such as through a training) but also retained, assimilated, evaluated and adapted to the unique needs of each person. As such, multiple capacity building interventions are being employed in an integrated manner, with their deployment strategically aimed at catalyzing lasting behavior change—whether it is the adoption of new cultivation techniques, the consideration of market opportunities in planting decisions, or other changes that The FARM Project seeks to promote.

During this reporting period, The FARM Project continued to identify and organize project beneficiaries, assessing their capacities and needs, and structuring a program of coordinated interventions to achieve specific capacity building objectives. Both public and private beneficiaries are targeted by these interventions; in the public sphere, policymakers and the extension service providers are the primary beneficiaries; in the private sphere, the primary target is producers. The capacity building component addresses specific needs that have been identified in technical, managerial, and organizational development areas, among others, through a series of integrated interventions. These interventions are designed to support both the production and the marketing component in The FARM Project.

During the period under review, a second series of field-based training was conducted in all project implementing areas, targeting 186 FBOs with membership of 4,235 farmers who are seed beneficiaries. During the training, class and field training on improved handling and planting the seeds to maximize yields was conducted.

The following production technologies for maize, sorghum and groundnuts were provided through field trainings:

- land preparation,
- planting,
- weeding,
- witchweed (*Striga spp.*) control in maize and sorghum,
- birds control in sorghum,
- harvesting, and
- drying.

The trained members are expected to train others at the payam level.

5.1 TRAINING OF TRAINER MODEL

To disseminate training in specific areas, The FARM Project applies a Training-of-Trainers (ToT) approach. The FARM Project ToT trainings are mainly targeted at extension agents and MAFRD staff from extension, rural development, cooperatives, plant protection and post-harvest areas. Also CADs, local NGOs and some FBO lead farmers were trained. The trainings are in English. ToTs aim to provide the core technical staff with best-practice skills in various areas of production and farming as a business. The participants are then qualified to transfer their skills through trainings for FBOs, lead farmers and producer groups at the payam level. In general, the payam extension agents conduct payam level trainings in vernacular languages.

The methods used in all ToT trainings, include the following:

- participatory group discussion and plenary presentations;
- pre- and post-training testing of participants and correction of results;
- hands-on practical application in the field;
- question and answer sessions;
- presentation and exercises with the aid of handouts;
- sharing of experiences in the sessions; and
- field visits and practical demonstrations of technologies in the field.

The ToT program was developed in stages. The first was to plan and coordinate efforts with the RSS ministries of Agriculture and Forestry, Cooperative and Rural Development at the national level. The second step was an orientation for The FARM Project field Senior Extension Officers from the three states. An array of training materials was prepared to support the ToT course. The program (course content, course schedule, training methodology, lesson plans, participant evaluation form, training materials, power points, handouts, posters, etc.) and procedure manual were developed and distributed to participants as appropriate.

The first Western Equatoria State level ToT was held in Yambio on February 23rd, and followed by Yambio County training on February 24, 2011. Lessons learnt were incorporated into the training program and curricula of the other two states. The seed facilitators and newly graduated trainers then conducted county-level training for Maridi and Mundri, Western Equatoria. Concurrently with the ToT course, the seed facilitators assisted the FBOs with grant signing, and served as observers of the seed distribution process.

5.2 TRAINING ON APPROPRIATE APPLICATION OF IMPROVED TECHNOLOGIES AND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Seed Distribution Trainings in EES

The TOT training in EES state took place in Torit on May 23, 2011, in Magwi on May 25, 2011, and in Pageri on May 26, 2011. The Torit training was attended by 39 participants from Ikotos, Budi, Pageri, Magwi and Katire. The trainings held in Magwi and Pageri were attended by 21 and 28 participants, respectively.

Seed Distribution Trainings in CES

The county ToT training on seed distribution took place at the Crop Training Centre in Yei on May 27, 2011, and was attended by 33 participants from FBOs, CAD and FARM technical staff. During the training, a plan for rolling out the payam level training in Yei, Morobo and Kajo Keji counties was prepared by the technical team and responsibilities were allocated to extension staff. The total number of beneficiaries attending these payam level trainings were 1,152 (774 male, 378 female) as outlined in the summary of the trainings in Table 9.

Table 9: List of Trainings Conducted in CES				
County	No Trainings	No FBOs	No Beneficiaries	
			Male	Female
Yei River County	8	17	145	49
Morobo County	8	14	223	76
Kajo Keji County	8	25	406	253
Total	24	56	774	378

Seed Distribution Trainings in WES

The county ToT training in WES started in Mundri County on May 28, 2011, followed by Maridi training on May 30, 2011, and finally in Yambio on June 1, 2011. All the payam trainings were conducted by the payam extension agents.

Table 10: List of trainings conducted in WES					
	Location	Attendance	FBOs	Male	Female
May 28, 2011	Mundri	50	18	33	7
May 20, 2011	Maridi	40	15	34	6
June 1, 2011	Yambio	56	25	50	6
Total		146	58	117	19

Cassava TOT training at Crop Training Center in Yei

A training program on best agronomic practices for cassava was also conducted. This program covered land preparation, stem selection, stem preparation, planting, pests and diseases, and weeding, as well as safety considerations for spraying the cassava stems. The cassava TOT training took place at the Crop Training Center in Yei from June 11-15, 2011, and was attended by 26 (24 male, 2 female) technical staff from the government at state and county levels as well as The FARM Project technical staff. The training content covered the following areas:

- general introduction on cassava production, harvesting and utilization;
- best agronomic practices, technology transfer to maximize yields and benefits;
- disease identification and control;
- presentation and facilitation skills;
- practical work and field visits;
- treatment of cassava planting material with recommended fungicides; and
- planting and handling of treated cassava material.

5.3 POST-HARVEST HANDLING AND WAREHOUSE MANAGEMENT TRAININGS

Adequate post-harvest handling and warehouse management is very important in the context of the agricultural sector of South Sudan as post-harvest losses of crops can reach up to 40 percent. There is also a need to improve the quality of grain for sales to ensure that South Sudan's crops become competitive both nationally and internationally.

In 2010, a warehouse management and control training was organized in conjunction with WFP for the participants from the three states. A total of 127 participants (106 men and 21 women) attended the trainings in Yambio, Juba and Yei, respectively. The training provided basic information on grain and staple crop commodity storage. It also provides information on management practices in receiving and dispatching goods, handling and stacking goods with consideration of local practices, warehouse maintenance and cleaning, inspection of stacks, pest control, waste disposal, documentation and record keeping.

In August and September 2011, a more extensive post-harvest handling and warehouse management training was carried out. The timing of the post-harvest training is particularly relevant as it coincides with the current harvesting season in South Sudan. In August, The FARM Project, in conjunction with the WFP's Purchase for Progress (P4P) initiative, conducted the first training on Post-Harvest Handling and Warehouse Management Training. The TOT workshop targeted the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, The FARM Project Extension Workers and leaders of FBOs with grain storage facilities. The first training commenced in Juba, Central Equatoria State, followed by training Yambio, Western Equatoria State and Torit, Eastern Equatoria State, in September 2011.

Main objectives of the training:

- Equip trainees with sound technologies and practices involved in post-harvest handling and warehouse management;
- Enable the participants to be able to identify major losses and identify ways of mitigating them in their working locations;
- Enable the participants to identify and know factors affecting the quality of stored food or grain;
- Demonstrate the reasons why appropriate post-harvest technologies are needed to reduce losses in quality and quantity;
- Demonstrate the factors involved in post-harvest handling and mitigate the high economic loss;
- Understand the basic principles of food storage practices; and
- Gain skills on appropriate storage procedures that can be applied to reduce pests attack in local storage facilities.

As the training was a TOT, the participants were expected to train others. This has already occurred in a number of cases. For example, one trainer who benefited from the training was John Mojule, Coordinator for the South Sudan Integrated Development Organization (SSIDO), a local nongovernmental organization working primarily in agriculture. Since Mojule attended the training in Central Equatoria State, he has, to date, trained 500 farmers, in eight villages in Eastern Equatoria State.

Appendix B summarizes the trainings that took place and the participants that were involved.

5.4 IMPROVE PRODUCER ORGANIZATION BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT SKILLS

In Year Two, The FARM Project continues its work to improve producer organizations' capacity through a staged process of needs assessment, assistance with formal registration, capacity strengthening and business planning programming, and a competitive grants program that will allow them to make targeted investments that will help increase their viability and competitiveness as businesses. During the reporting period, 11 FBOs that we were already working with in Western Equatoria State, were supported in their registration and the election of their officers.

S/No	Name of FBO	County	Payam
1	Makpandu Won. Mult. Purp . Soc.	Yambio	Bangasu
2	Pazuo Mult. Purp Coop.	Yambio	Yambio
3	Saura 2.Mult. Coop.	Yambio	Yambio
4	Mabayaku Coop Soc.	Yambio	Bangasu
5	Mabaiku Farmers Group	Yambio	Bangasu
6.	Malaga Farmers Group	Maridi	Mambe
7.	Mudubai 2	Maridi	Maridi
8.	Otto Farmers Group	Maridi	Mambe
9.	Sukul-Gaba Farmers Group	Maridi	Landili
10.	Lalama Faarmers Group	Maridi	Maridi
11.	Kuanga Farmers Group	Maridi	Maridi

5.5 FACILITATION OF FBO ESTABLISHMENT

For maximum impact, The FARM Project works with cooperatives, groups, and associations collectively referred to as Farmer-based Organizations (FBOs). In order for FARM's work with these groups to be most productive, FARM will assess and invest in developing the capacity of these groups from both institutional/organizational and technical fronts.

The FARM Project provided institutional capacity building assistance to these FBOs in close collaboration with the County Agricultural Department and the State Cooperatives Department. This assistance was seen in the following ways: first, it assisted unregistered FBOs to formally register with the government, a step that would facilitate their access to grants and financing and other forms of assistance. Second, it undertook activities to strengthen the internal functioning of the group (e.g., helping to develop group constitutions and by-laws, preparing business plans, opening bank accounts, and holding elections). FBOs are being assisted with:

1. Registration
2. Group Formation and Development
3. Developing capabilities and procedures for internal management
4. Developing group constitutions/bylaws
5. Preparing of business plans
6. Opening of bank accounts, and
7. Holding of elections.

During September 2011, the number of FBOs reported was 234 with a total membership of 4,598 beneficiaries, of whom 1,439 are women. A summary of FBO beneficiaries is provided in Table 12 and a full list of FBOs is provided in Appendix C.

COUNTY	PREVIOUS NUMBER OF FBOS	NEW FBOS	TOTAL NO OF FBOS	TOTAL BENEFICIARIES
IKWOTO	17	8	25	314
MAGWI	38	12	50	888
BUDI	5	0	5	154
EES SUBTOTAL	60	20	80	1,356
YEI	16	5	21	397
MOROBO	13	2	15	326
KAJOKEJI	22	13	35	932
CES SUBTOTAL	51	20	71	1,655
YAMBIO	27	0	27	694
MARIDI	20	0	20	350
MUNDRI WEST	27	0	27	543
WES SUBTOTAL	74	0	74	1,587
GRAND TOTAL	185	40	225	4,598

5.5.1 Organizational Development

As part of The FARM Project interaction with FBOs, organizational capacity development continues to be an important facet of building capacity. To this end, in year three, The FARM Project will evaluate and revise its capacity assessment tools based on experiences gleaned from their application in years one and two; continue to undertake capacity assessments as an integral part of working with any organization; and develop and implement organizational development training programs for its constituent organizations. An organizational development training program for FBOs will address key issues, such as organizational structure; management skills; group dynamics; recordkeeping; and finance and reporting. The FARM Project plans to conduct an assessment on capacity of all FBOs in the next reporting period, when the FBOs are not engaged in any farming activities. The tool for the assessment has already been developed.

5.5.2 Field Visits to the FBOs by the Extension Agents

During the reporting period the payam extension officers visited FBOs in EES, CES and WES to follow up on the training recommendations provided during the trainings. The payam extension workers were also looking at the performance of each FBO in adopting the best agronomic practices such as proper spacing, timely weeding, seed rate per station as well as farm management in general.

5.5.3 Farmer -to-Farmer Field Tours

The FARM Project is currently in the process of selecting small farmers from Yei, Morobo, Kajo Keji and Magwi counties to visit farmers in Uganda during the next project quarter. The main objective of this tour is to establish linkages between the farmers in the two countries, which will allow them to exchange farming experiences. Furthermore, the farmers from South Sudan will be able to view the best agricultural practices from the Ugandan farmers and learn skills in post-harvest handling, agro-processing, agro-forestry, marketing groups and seed production. This external farmer-to-farmer visit will be conducted in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture.

5.6 IMPROVE CAPACITY OF PUBLIC SECTOR FOR DEVELOPMENT OF ENABLING ENVIRONMENT TO SUPPORT MARKET-LED AGRICULTURE

During the reporting period, many of the project's activities to support improvements to public sector service provision will be continued from year two. Co-location between project field staff and MAF extension agents has continued, allowing for joint engagement and learning. The FARM Project's support of local extension offices' operating and transport requirements, including the provision of internet services, generators, fuel and lubricants, bicycles and motorcycles, will also continue.

5.6.1 Strengthen public sector's capacity to provide quality services

The FARM Project's efforts to strengthen public sector service provision falls into two areas: institutional capacity building and technical capacity building. Integral to the development of the agriculture sector in South Sudan is the effective development of an extension system. Currently, most agricultural inputs flow through RSS, so the need to provide training and strengthen the public sector in service provision is all the more relevant. The FARM Project has formed a strong partnership with the government at every level. Demonstrative of this is FARM's collaboration with MAF on mechanization. During the first project year, FARM and MAF sponsored a Tractor Assessment in all three states. This study revealed that many of the government tractors have suffered damages or are in need of maintenance. In order to respond to this issue, and stage an effective response, the ministry sent an assessment team to catalogue the tractors in all three Equatoria states and conduct an assessment of both their exact location, and their state of repair.

The FARM Project's Capacity Building Specialist visited the State Ministry of Agriculture, Cooperative and Environment in Western Equatoria State in September to identify the gaps for organizational capacity building. Through meetings with the Minister and other high-level officials, as well as targeted group work, the issues that arose included inadequate extension services throughout the state and poor recordkeeping and reporting within the Ministry. A similar capacity assessment was also planned for Eastern Equatoria State with the State Ministry of Agriculture, Cooperatives and Rural Development. However, during a visit in September, an insufficient number of Ministry staff was present. Discussions with staff who were present, however, indicated an absence of private sector investment in the agricultural sector and poor storage and marketing facilities as major challenges. The State Ministry then undertook their own SWOT analysis at a later date and presented the findings back to The FARM Project.

6. CROSS-CUTTING ACTIVITIES

6.1 POLICY, LEGISLATION AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

The FARM Project focuses on improved agricultural productivity, food security, enhanced rural markets, and capacity development. For all these components to effectively be accomplished there is a need to develop a conducive environment through a sound and effective policy framework. The FARM Project, with the support of the Thematic Policy Working Groups (TPWGs) and in consultations with key stakeholders, continues to facilitate the review and development of agricultural and forestry policies.

Over the past six months, The FARM Project has facilitated a process in partnership with MAF that resulted in the drafting of eight new agricultural policies, covering new formal guidelines for adoption and implementation of main components of the agricultural sector in South Sudan. To finalize these policies for submission, The FARM Project held a workshop in July with senior officials of the relevant Ministries in the Republic of South Sudan. The workshop focused on the completion of the draft policy frameworks on seed, plant protection, agriculture research, forestry as well as training and capacity development. During the workshop, the team completed their review and finalization of all the draft policies. Draft policies were submitted to MAF in August.

Since September, a detailed review of the draft fertilizer, horticulture and mechanization policies was conducted. Key recommendations for amendments included, amongst others, the request for the Ministry of Industry and Mining to validate the potential for fertilizer manufacturing in South Sudan, the clear definition of horticulture as a subsector and the incorporation of more information on the impact of taxes and duties on mechanization. A National Consultative Policy Workshop on the three remaining policies will take place in November. The draft policies will then be submitted to the relevant Directorates for review before final submission to the Minister.

6.2 SYNERGIES WITH DONOR AND RSS PARTNERS

The international community in South Sudan is relatively large. There are many donors and implementing partners involved in livelihood activities, which means there are both a number of actors to coordinate with and a great number of opportunities for collaboration. In order to minimize the possibility of duplication, The FARM Project has actively engaged partner organizations and coordinated strategic value chain interventions in a consultative manner. Through strategic relationships developed with GIZ and WFP in Year I, complementary interventions such as the establishment of staging centers and complementary value chain interventions have been designed for the upcoming project year. This will be done under the guidance of USAID.

6.2.1 AGRA/IFDC

During the reporting period, The FARM Project also initiated discussion with AGRA and IFDC on closer collaboration. To this effect, the Chief of Party met with Dr. Joe Devries and Dr. George Bigirwa of AGRA and Dr. Richard Jones of IFDC in Nairobi in September. These two organizations are funded by USAID to help promote improved farming practices among smallholder farmers. This includes research on improved germplasm and, based on these findings, the provision of improved seeds of the main agricultural crops, including the introduction of hybrid maize. The FARM Project will support the demonstration of the proposed hybrid maize through demonstrations on farmers' fields in 2012. The FARM Project will also work closely with AGRA on seed multiplication and support to private sector seed merchants. The meeting with IFDC revolved around the role of the input centers and mechanisms to make fertilizer widely available through the use of private sector logistic organizations.

6.2.2 World Food Programme

During the reporting period, The FARM Project actively engaged with the World Food Programme's Purchase for Progress (P4P) initiative in conducting the post-harvest handling and warehouse management training. This synergy in post-harvest management is particularly important with the foresight that P4P is a large potential buyer for grains. In order to sell grains to P4P, however, the grains have to be in accordance with minimum quality standards and be cost competitive. The trainings provided an ample opportunity, therefore, to introduce The FARM Project farmers to these standards and make them aware both of what they have to comply to and how they can comply to sell their produce to WFP.

6.2.3 Internal Coordination Committee (ICC)

The FARM Project also participates in the MAF's monthly Internal Coordination Committee (ICC) meetings. This is a meeting between MAF and other major actors working in agriculture in South Sudan, including the World Bank, NPA and World Vision. The meeting is to update the government and other development partners on what is happening and to forge collaborations and synergies.

6.2.4 Project Coordination Committee (PCC)

The PCC for The FARM Project was established by the former Minister of Agriculture and Forestry Dr. Anne Itto Leonardo in November 2010. The PCC has provided project staff with a means to undertake regular programming coordination with the MAF. It was anticipated that the PCC would hold meetings approximately every two weeks. The activities of this committee have been limited to one meeting since the arrival of the Honorable Minister in August, and instead project activities have been reported during the ICC.

6.2.5 Greenbelt Committee

In September, talks held with The FARM Project, WFP and GIZ aimed at sharing information and best practices. Following these talks, the three organizations – all operating in the Greenbelt region – decided to hold regular meetings as the "Greenbelt Committee," which

would facilitate coordination of activities. The formalities with regards to this committee will be discussed during the upcoming planning year.

6.3 AGRICULTURAL BEHAVIORAL CHANGE (AgBC®)

The FARM Project uses the AgBC® methodology to address attitudinal, knowledge, and practical barriers to the adoption of improved agricultural practices. AgBC® combines formative research, situational analysis, message and channel testing as well as evaluation to ensure effective promotion of improved agricultural practices. As many of the agricultural practice recommendations promoted by The FARM Project (e.g., planting in rows as opposed to broadcasting) require the farmer to expend more energy upfront for a larger payoff in income and food security, the AgBC® strategy is designed to effectively understand and address adoption barriers to ensure new practices are adopted.

6.3.1 Radio Public Service Announcements

The first product is a series of 30-60 second radio spots promoting improved agricultural practices related to maize, sorghum, groundnuts and cassava. Due to poor infrastructure in South Sudan, dissemination of messages can be difficult in rural areas. However, it is farmers in these areas who can also benefit the most from messaging on agriculture, as they do not frequently receive visits from agricultural extension service providers. Radio coverage in South Sudan is fairly good and surveys have shown that radio is the most effective way of reaching farmers in rural areas. Therefore, a series of public service announcements (PSAs) on agricultural best practices were developed in English, local Arabic as well as selected local languages spoken in the Equatoria States. The radio spots will be broadcast in accordance with the agricultural calendar and will include messages on best agronomic production, post-harvest and storage practices.

The FARM Project has been working with Sudan Radio Service (SRS) to provide scripting, translation and production services for the messages into PSAs. During the current reporting period, both written and pilot recorded versions of the PSAs were reviewed by project staff and state Ministry of Agriculture staff and field tested with farmers in focus groups.

The 26 scripts ready for production into 30 – 60 seconds PSAs cover the following areas: planting in rows, planting material, sorghum spacing, maize spacing, cassava spacing, land selection, land preparation, land clearing, weeding, harvesting and storage, pre-harvest preparation, witch weed control, and birds control on sorghum.

6.3.2 Farmer Field Training Manual

The second product is a pictorial (visual) manual and question/answer guide demonstrating improved agricultural practices and will be developed as a teaching tool for the Farmer Participatory Learning Centers. During the current reporting period, the messages and graphics for the pictorial manual were drafted. Drafts of the manual were distributed to project staff and State Ministries for comment. Feedback from the State Ministries was crucial in the decision to

replace some of the graphics with more context specific examples to maximize effectiveness. This decision has delayed the production of the pictorial manual so that relevant pictures are taken and integrated into the manual.

6.4 GRANTS

The Grant component with a budget of USD 5 million continues to serve a very important role in support of The FARM Project's three technical components. The FARM Project developed a grant infrastructure in the first year of the project during which grants supported the Phase 1 seed distribution for the first agricultural growing season through the issuance of in-kind grants to FBOs. It continued this support through the issuance of in-kind grants during the Phase 2 seed distribution of groundnut seeds and cassava stems for the second agricultural growing season. The FARM Project continues to develop grants opportunities where other types of agricultural inputs are provided to FBOs within the agriculture sector.

The FARM Project also continues to work with FBOs to help them register so they meet eligibility requirements for grant consideration. The local organizations not fully registered by time of grant execution were required to be certified by local government offices as a legitimate FBO eligible to receive grant resources from The FARM Project. They were also required to commit to pursuing registration with the Government.

6.4.1. Initial Work on Innovative Grant Facility

The FARM Project submitted its Innovative Grant Facility: Manual and Application Handbook on July 28, 2010. The manual was approved in November 2011 based on modifications to the project Branding and Marking Plan per contracting officer request. Grant facility presentations and trainings were subsequently prepared and delivered in each of the three states training potential applicants on the grant application and implementation process.

As previously mentioned, all grant recipients had to be either registered or be in the process of getting registered with the Government before being eligible to receive grant resources through The FARM Project. The FARM Project helped many of these organizations get registered by the time of grant execution. The local organizations not fully registered by time of grant execution were required to be certified by local government offices as a legitimate FBO eligible to receive grant resources from The FARM Project as well as commit to pursuing registration with the Government. All executed grants during the first project year were in-kind and did not require any exchange of cash.

6.4.2 Phase 1 and 2 Seed Grant Reviews

There are various milestones that are specified in the in-kind grant letters and those have to be achieved during the time of implementing the particular grant. For seed grants, the milestones are as follows:

1. land preparation;
2. seed distribution and planting;
3. yield monitoring and assessment (from planting to the measurement of the yield itself);
and

4. cost-share payment.

Phase 1 Grants: Both Milestones 1 and 2 were completed during the reporting period. Yield measurements are on the way for Milestone 3. As part of these yield measurements, yield assessment forms are being sent to the FBOs to fill out with the help of The FARM Project staff. Arrangements are also currently being made to verify Milestone 4 cost-share payment. To do this, farmer contribution lists will be sent to the FBO management who will work with The FARM Project staff to collect the 30 percent contributions. Some of the in-kind grant letters are to be modified based on the Sekedo seed matter as standard Sekedo seed, rather than certified Sekedo seed, was received by the FBOs.

Phase 2 Grants: In Phase 2, The FARM Project issued grants to FBOs for an in-kind supply of groundnut seed and cassava TME 14 stem as well as additional maize and sorghum grants:

State	No. of FBOs	Feddans to be Planted G/Nuts	Feddans to be planted Maize	Feddans to be planted Sorghum	Total No. of feddans to be planted	Kgs of G/Nuts distributed	Kgs of Maize distributed	Kgs of Sorghum distributed	Grant Amount
WES	74	188	353	-	541	7,530	2,648	-	\$21,135
CES	51	243	-	-	243	9,700	-	-	\$24,406
EES	59	161	799	827	1,787	6,450	5,990	3,306	\$23,955
Total	184	592	1,152	827	2,571	23,680	8,638	3,306	\$69,496

State	No. of FBOs	Feddans to be planted	Cuttings in Kgs	Grant Amount
WES	45	176	35,200	\$45,760
CES	35	166	33,200	\$43,160
EES	32	119	23,800	\$30,940
Total	112	461	92,200	\$119,860

6.4.3 Plowing Grant Review

In Year 1, 44 Fixed Obligation Grants (FOGs) for plowing were executed and all continue to be implemented during this reporting period. It is expected that the majority will be closed during the first quarter (October-December 2011) of the next project year. The FBOs receiving plowing grants had between 10 and 33 feddans for plowing. The FBO engaged the services of local tractors to plow land under these grants. The size of the grants ranged in value from the equivalent of USD 511 to USD 2,322. All grant recipients were required to provide in-kind equivalent matches from USD 30 to USD 115. At this time, the status of the 44 grants issued to plow 597 feddans of land in the three Equatoria states are as follows: 385.5 feddans have been plowed, 211.5 feddans have not plowed. Furthermore, FOG letters are being modified to take into consideration an increase in fuel costs from the closing of the fuel supply from Sudan. Final verifications are being carried out on grants where the land has been completely plowed.

6.4.4 Goat Breeding Improvement Grant Review

The FARM Project continued to monitor the three in-kind grants issued in the previous reporting period for the goat-breeding program in Western Equatoria. The grants provided between 168 and 282 goats to three FBOs in Western Equatoria ranging in value from USD 18,920 to USD 29,735 per grant. A total of 624 goats were purchased through a competitive process from a vendor in Juba.

6.5 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Monitoring and evaluation enables us to assess the quality and impact of work against what was planned. It also helps in reviewing progress, identifying problems in planning and implementation and making adjustments in order to see that difference.

A major activity undertaken in August and September was a yield assessment on maize among The FARM Project beneficiaries. A team of enumerators was hired to carry out one of the first rigorous yield assessments in South Sudan, within Central, Eastern and Western Equatoria States. Random sampling was used to identify project beneficiary farmers to be targeted in the analysis; additionally, a “control” sample of farmers, who were not project beneficiaries, were also included. The data was then analyzed and the results are all presented in this report.

Overall, there is a significant difference in the average yields compared to the baseline, in all three states. Central Equatoria State, in particular, showed high average yields and the rainfall situation was relatively better than the other two States. In Eastern and Western Equatoria, the yields were higher than the baseline despite adverse weather conditions that affected Longe 5 maize more than local varieties.

During the reporting period, The FARM Project technical team also reviewed and refined the PMP indicators. The revised indicators were submitted to USAID in September. The updated indicators with the corresponding data for October 2010 to September 2011 are shown in Table 15.

Table 15: Updated indicators and achievements by September 30th 2011

				TARGET	ACTUAL
PERFORMANCE Indicators for Component 1	Unit of Measurement, Disaggregation	Data Source	Baseline	Oct 2010-Sept 2011	October 2010 - September 2011
1.1 Increase adoption of improved technologies: Production					
Number of farmers, processors, and others who have adopted new technologies or management practices as a result of USG assistance	Number	Farmer, processor, trader surveys	0	4200	4235
Hectares under improved technologies or management practices as a result of USG assistance	Hectares	Farmer surveys	0	4556	5796
Number of individuals (total) that have received USG-supported short-term agricultural sector productivity training	Number; Gender	Project record keeping	0	3330	4706
Number of individuals (women) that have received USG-supported short-term agricultural sector productivity training	Gender	Project record keeping	0	736	1592
1.3 Improve producer organization business and management skills					
Number of producers' organizations, water users associations, trade and business associations, and community-based organizations receiving USG assistance	Number and type of organization	Project record keeping	30	186	225
Number of women farmers, organizations/associations assisted as a result of USG-supported interventions	Number, Gender	Project record keeping	0	210	1439
PERFORMANCE Indicators for Component 2	Unit of Measurement/ Disaggregation	Data Source	BL/ 2010	2011	
2.1 Increase smallholders' access to market services: Trade					
Number of agriculture-related firms accessing critical agricultural services (such as credit, veterinary services, agricultural inputs, machinery services and business development services) as a result of USG interventions/assistance	Number	Farmer, processor, trader surveys	0	15	0

Volume and value of purchases from smallholders of agricultural commodities targeted by USG assistance	Machinery services, fertilizer, crop protection inputs, improved seed, veterinary services, feed rations	Farmer surveys	0	15%	0%
Volume and value of purchases from smallholders of agricultural commodities targeted by USG assistance	Gender			0%	0%
Usage of price and market information systems as a result of USG assistance	Number	Farmer surveys	0	4200	0
Usage of price and market information systems as a result of USG assistance	Gender			1050	0
2.3 Increase private sector services (including MSMEs) that support marketing and finance					
Value of private sector services provided that support marketing and finance	Number	Service provider survey	0	0	0
	Type of organization				
2.4 Improve the legal, regulatory, and policy environment to facilitate marketing and trade					
Number of policies/regulations/administrative procedures drafted, analyzed, approved, implemented and enforced as a result of USG assistance.	Number	Policy specialist	0	7	8 Drafted
PERFORMANCE Indicators for Component 3	Unit of Measurement/ Disaggregation	Data Source	BL/	2011	
			2010		
3.1 Improve business, management and service provision skills of private sector including MSMEs					
Number of USG-supported training events held that are related to improving the trade and investment environment, and public sector capacity to provide quality services	Number	Project record-keeping	0	30	12
Number of individuals who have received short-term agricultural enabling environment training	Number	Project record-keeping	0	600	4706
Number of MSMEs undergoing organization capacity/competency assessment and capacity strengthening as a result of USG assistance	Number	Project record-keeping	0	15	0

3.2 Improve capacity of public sector for development of enabling environment to support market-led agriculture					
Number of public sector agents sufficiently trained to be qualified to support market-led agriculture as a result of USG assistance	Number	Trainer records	0	105	170
3.3 Strengthen public sector's capacity to provide quality services					
Number of public sector agents qualified to provide services	Number	Trainer records	0	105	170

6.6 GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM

The FARM Program is making use of Geographic Information System (GIS) technology as an aid for pre-programmatic assessment, decision-making, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting. To accomplish these tasks, The FARM Project started developing a database of its programmatic activities using GPS measurements in August. Furthermore, shape files for the area of South Sudan have been acquired in order to start mapping project activities. The FARM Project will continue with these activities and start mapping its FBOs as well.

6.7 ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATIONS

As some of the interventions proposed by The FARM Project require careful examination of the potential environmental impact, the project has already completed and submitted some follow-up environmental review forms to supplement the Initial Environmental Review. These include an Environmental Review Form (ERF) and the related Environmental Review Report (ERR) for the agricultural seed distribution activity. One of the environmental threats from this distribution activity was that the high-quality, certified seed was treated with the pesticides Thiram and Imidacloprid to protect it during transport, storage, and after planting. These pesticides were included in a Pesticide Evaluation Report and Safer Use Action Plan (PERSUAP), initially focused on these types of seed treatments. A revised PERSUAP that covers a broad range of basic and low-risk agricultural chemicals, including herbicides, pesticides, fungicides, and storage protection chemicals, has been submitted to USAID.

A draft ERF/ERR for mechanized plowing and land preparation grants has been submitted to USAID for approval and covers land to be plowed during the first rainy season of 2011. The mitigation measures for this activity include plowing across the slope/on the contour and also planting crops across the slope/on the contour to help control soil and water erosion. It, too, will need to be updated if there are additional grants for plowing alone during the second rainy season.

The FARM Project also initiated an environmental assessment process to address the issue of land clearing, following a request from the MAF that the project intercede to help farmers clear land. The issue is complicated. South Sudan has an estimated 4 million displaced persons who are returning to their native villages and fields after an absence of anywhere from several years to more than 20 years.

Slash and burn, extensive agriculture is the norm in South Sudan, and to maintain some long-term forest cover, the country needs to move towards more intensive and more permanent agricultural production systems. Agricultural intensification is also the basis for increasing farm productivity, and the foundation upon which efforts to improve farm income, returns and the competitiveness of the value chains for agricultural products are built. Labor is very constrained, both for heavy activities such as land clearing, but also for timely operations on multiple crops, growing at the same time.

Returning families are leaving locations where relief food is distributed and spreading out across the countryside, such that food distribution is much more difficult. They need to quickly produce crops to feed their families and produce income to provide food security. The new nation is receiving large quantities of relief food and importing most of the food for urban centers from neighboring countries. South Sudan needs a vibrant agricultural sector to feed its population and provide income to the approximately 80% of the population that lives in rural areas. Rapidly increasing agricultural production, required at both the household and national level, would be greatly facilitated by helping farmers clear fields now overgrown with trees and brush from an extended fallow. While clearing fields for agricultural production may have negative environmental implications, this must be weighed against the needs of farm families.

Therefore, in addition to the plowing grant ERF/ERR, an ERF/ERR has been drafted and submitted to USAID and will be finalized to cover reclamation of 900 feddans of fallow land to help local populations settle and produce food and income more quickly. This will be a pilot land reclamation activity focused on developing a responsible approach to land reclamation, which results in sustainable and more intensive agricultural activities and good land stewardship practices.

CONCLUSION

The FARM Project has made notable progress in all three components in this reporting period. Moving forward it will be important to assess the impact the technical activities have made on the agricultural sector in South Sudan. To do this, The FARM Project will be looking at carefully assessing the yields from the seed distributions. These will be among the first rigorous yield assessments that have taken place in South Sudan. Therefore, they will be important not only to gauge The FARM Project farmers' uptake of best agronomic practices, but also to see whether the improved varieties are suitable to the conditions in South Sudan. Furthermore, as plowing remains a main priority of the project's beneficiaries, The FARM Project will be conducting a thorough assessment of alternative plowing options. This will provide the strong foundation for reaching the targeted plowing of 900 feddans during the next cropping season.

Having completed two seed distributions, there are lessons learned that will be applied moving forward. In particular, the planning stages of the seed distribution can be strengthened. With the CPPG now fully constituted and having regular meetings, this will enhance both the planning and distribution process.

As a result of the temporary cessation of activities in Budi County, due to the insecurity, The FARM Project will complete a feasibility assessment for expanding its activities into Torit County. This assessment will look at both the agricultural and socioeconomic status of selected payams that lie in the Greenbelt region. When the assessment is completed, a decision will be taken on whether to expand operations into Torit County and to which payams.

A new focus for The FARM Project in the coming future will be its work on the Seed for Development (S4D) strategy. To implement this strategy, The FARM Project will work in close cooperation with the AGRA and IFDC projects supported by USAID. One of the initiatives being proposed is to establish 6,000 on-farm demonstrations of hybrid maize seed with applications of fertilizer during the first rains of 2012. Hybrid varieties that have been shown to perform well in the Greenbelt will be procured and sown using a fertilizer recommendation from IFDC. Extension agents and lead farmers will be trained how to establish these demonstrations and will each be responsible for between 10 and 20 demonstrations.

The successful implementation of technical activities during this reporting period has strengthened relations with project beneficiaries and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry at a national and a state level. This provides the basis for expanding activities and work in the future. Furthermore, by identifying challenges and lessons learned The FARM Project can adapt as needed to make the greatest difference moving forward.

APPENDIX A – STAFFING

FOOD, AGRIBUSINESS & RURAL MARKETS (THE FARM PROJECT) STAFF EMPLOYMENT MATRIX

	TITLE	NAME OF STAFF	ORGANIZATION
	JUBA STAFF (30 Staff)		
1	Chief of Party	Hughes, David	Abt/Expat
2	Deputy Chief of Party for Grants & Operations	Gould, Jeffrey	Abt/Expat
3	Capacity Building Expert	Dhel, Kuyu	Abt/Expat
4	Agric.Strategy/Policy Expert	Mataya, Charles	Abt/Expat
5	Communications Specialist	Haas, Astrid	Abt/Expat
6	Agriculture Production Specialist	Mwale, Costa	ACDI/VOCA/Expat
7	Finance and Business Development Coordinator	Taban, Stephen Louro	ACDI/VOCA/CCN
8	Value Chain/Private Sector Expert	Emery, Nathan	ACDI/VOCA/Expat
9	Special Advisor	Otika, Lawrence	Abt/CCN
9	Senior Finance Manager	Ayiga, Francis	Abt/CCN
10	Technical Program Coordinator	Amule, Timothy	Abt/CCN
11	M&E/Gender Specialist	Awate, Elizabeth	Abt/CCN
12	Grants Specialist	Gimu, Betty	Abt/CCN
13	Operations Manager	Lomuja, Alex	Abt/CCN
14	IT Specialist	Onyango, Moses	Abt/CCN
15	IT Specialist	Navara, Ovio	Abt/CCN
16	Procurement Specialist	Mawut, Jacob	Abt/CCN
17	Accountant	Kitara, Phillip Lam	Abt/CCN
18	Admin Asst/Receptionist I	Lukudu, Ropani	Abt/CCN
19	Admin Asst/Receptionist II	Christine Nabobi	Abt/CCN
20	Community Outreach Expert	Tombe, Redento	AAH-I/CCN
21	Junior Accountant	Vacant (Recruitment in Process)	AAH-I/CCN
22	Marketing Coordinator/Juba	Titia, Esther	ACDI/VOCA/CCN
23	Junior Accountant	Juan, Mary	ACDI/VOCA/CCN
24	Logistics & Procurement Officer	Ayume, Justin	RSM/CCN
25	Senior Driver	Mawa Mustafa	RSM/CCN
26	Driver	Ladu Mikaya	RSM/CCN
27	Driver	Amule Denis Osmas	RSM/CCN
28	Driver	Aloro,James	RSM/CCN
29	Driver	Salah Ladu Baruti	RSM/CCN
30	Driver	Ramadan, Oliver	RSM/CCN
	CENTRAL EQUATORIA STAFF (18 Staff)		
31	Capacity Building Coordinator	Vacant (Recruitment in Process)	Abt/CCN
32	F&A Office Manager	Gwolo Daniel Eluzai	Abt/CCN
33	Grants/Procurement Officer	Justo, Adelmo Lumana	Abt/CCN
34	Ag. Production Coordinator	Wani, Simon Pitia	ACDI/VOCA/CCN
35	Senior Extension Officer	Bullen, Augustine	AAH-I/CCN
36	Extension Officer	Batali, Isaac Sadarak	AAH-I/CCN
37	Extension Officer	Kidden, Esther Dima	AAH-I/CCN
38	Extension Officer	Murye, Alex Anthony	AAH-I/CCN
39	Driver	Peter Malish Joseph	RSM/CCN
40	Payam Extension Worker Otogo	Samuel Wani	AAH-I/CCN
41	Payam Extension Worker Mugwo	Christopher Lumori	AAH-I/CCN
42	Payam Extension Worker Lasu	Onesta Yamgi	AAH-I/CCN
43	Payam Extension Worker Kangapo 1	Jame Emmanuel	AAH-I/CCN

FOOD, AGRIBUSINESS & RURAL MARKETS (THE FARM PROJECT)

STAFF EMPLOYMENT MATRIX

	TITLE	NAME OF STAFF	ORGANIZATION
44	Payam Extension Worker Kangapo 2	Duku Jakson	AAH-I/CCN
45	Payam Extension Worker Lire	Sanya Moses	AAH-I/CCN
46	Payam Extension Worker Wudabi	Faustino Amule	AAH-I/CCN
47	Payam Extension Worker Kimba	Joseph Mawa Baba	AAH-I/CCN
48	Payam Extension Worker Gulumbi	Biaga Robert	AAH-I/CCN
49	Payam Extension Worker Otogo	Samuel Wani	AAH-I/CCN
WESTERN EQUATORIA STAFF (18)			
50	F&A Office Manager	Mambo, Kassim	Abt/CCN
51	Capacity Building Coordinator	Jackson Zowai Simon	Abt/CCN
52	Grants/Procurement Officer	Alex, Eli Bidal	Abt/CCN
53	Senior Extension Officer	Habakuk, Eliaba	AAH-I/CCN
54	Extension Officer	Aziti, Wilson Mambere	AAH-I/CCN
55	Extension Officer	Bullen, Benty	AAH-I/CCN
56	Extension Officer	Mamur, David Yotama	AAH-I/CCN
57	Ag. Production Coordinator	Henry Muganga Kenyi	ACDI/VOCA/CCN
58	Driver	Seka Joseph Warija	RSM/CCN
59	Payam Extension Worker Mundri	Silvano Kagyo	AAH-I/CCN
60	Payam Extension Worker Bangalo	Herbert Tunis	AAH-I/CCN
61	Payam Extension Worker Kotobi	Niymaya Christopher	AAH-I/CCN
62	Payam Extension Worker Maridi	Charles Mustafa	AAH-I/CCN
63	Payam Extension Worker Mambe	Wilson Nzara	AAH-I/CCN
64	Payam Extension Worker Landili	Enock Mariaka	AAH-I/CCN
65	Payam Extension Worker Ri Rangu	Bernado Mathew	AAH-I/CCN
66	Payam Extension Worker Yambio	Alison Paida	AAH-I/CCN
67	Payam Extension Worker Bangasu	Anthony Tunga	AAH-I/CCN
EASTERN EQUATORIA STAFF (15))			
68	Livestock Coordinator	Nyika, Samuel D.	Abt/CCN
69	Capacity Building Coordinator	Cham Puro Nygoni	Abt/CCN
70	F&A Office Manager	Bahati Amos Lasu	Abt/CCN
71	Grants/Procurement Officer	Joseph Ladu	Abt/CCN
72	Senior Extension Officer	Ronyo, Emmanuel	AAH-I/CCN
73	Extension Officer	Modi, Angelo William	AAH-I/CCN
74	Extension Officer	Vacant	AAH-I/CCN
75	Extension Officer	Vacant	AAH-I/CCN
76	Ag. Production Coordinator	Kenyi, Alfred Tako	ACDI/VOCA/CCN
77	Driver	Boboya, Michael	RSM/CCN
78	Payam Extension Worker Ikotos Central	Lino Kwonga	AAH-I/CCN
79	Payam Extension Worker Katire	Daniel Lotua	AAH-I/CCN
80	Payam Extension Worker Lomohedang North	Justin Taban	AAH-I/CCN
81	Payam Extension Worker Magwi	Augustine Mannix	AAH-I/CCN
82	Payam Extension Worker Pageri	Ambayo Charles	AAH-I/CCN
83	Payam Extension Worker Pajok	Otto Mathew	AAH-I/CCN
84	Payam Extension Worker Nagishot	Jacob Lokang	AAH-I/CCN

APPENDIX B - TRAININGS

Trainings between October 2010 – March 2011

Type of training	Tractor training				Warehouse Training				Hides	Faab				Seeds			
Location	W	C	E	Total	WES	CES	EES	Total	Total (EES)	WES	CES	EES	Total	WES	CES	EES	Total
Total individuals				122	36	39	31	106	9	114	119	73	306	130	84	92	306
Women				2	8	9	1	18	1	43	51	21	115	28	14	21	63
New to FARM this year				21					9	110	114	69	293	28	51	92	171
Organizations / associations represented				2					0	14	11	11	36	91	61	81	233
Farmers				0						97	97	51	245	1	0	0	1
Processors				0						0	0	0		1			1
Traders				0					4	0	0	0		4			4
Farm-service providers (ex. Veterinary, tractor, input, credit)				15					2	0	0	0		0			
Extension professionals				6					3	6	8	3		20	19	8	47
GOSS/State/County employees				0						9	10	8	27	11	3	3	17
Other (specify)				0						2	18		20	3	1		4

Improved Agronomic Practice Trainings - April 2011 - September 2011 EES

Date	Location	Description of training	Beneficiaries by gender		# of FBOs	# of trainings
			Male	Female		
23-05-11	Torit	ToT on best practices on Maize, sorghum, groundnut and safe handling and storage of seeds	34	5	6	1
25-05-11	Magwi	County Training on best practices on Maize, sorghum, groundnut and safe handling and storage of seeds	21	4	20	1
26-05-11	Pajok	County Training on best practices on Maize, sorghum, groundnut and safe handling and storage of seeds	15	13	2	1
27-05-11	Pageri	Payam level training on best practices on Maize, sorghum, groundnut and safe handling and storage of seeds	14	13	12	1

21-06-11	Ikotos town	Payam level training on best practices on cassava production	10	2	2	1
23-06-11	Ishoe (Lomohidang North Payam)	Payam level training on best practices on cassava production	13	4	2	1
24-06-11	Ikotos Central	Payam level training on best practices on cassava production	5	3	3	1
25-06-11	Obbo	Payam level training on best practices on cassava production	23	8	18	1
30-06-11	Katire	Payam level training on best practices on cassava production	6	6	3	1
01-07-11	Pageri	Payam level training on best practices on cassava production	15	2	2	1
Grand-Total			156	60	70	10

Improved Agronomic Practice Trainings -CES

Date	Location	Description of training	Beneficiaries by gender		Number of FBOs	Number of trainings
			Male	Female		
27-05-11	Yei	ToT on best practices on Maize, sorghum, groundnut and safe handling and storage of seeds	30	3	24	1
11 th to 15 th June 2011	Yei	ToT on best practices on cassava production, preparation of planting materials	24	2	Exten. staffs	1
31-05-11	Yei County	Payam level training on best practices on Maize, sorghum, groundnut and safe handling and storage of seeds	145	49	17	8
30-05-11	Morobo County	Payam level training on best practices on Maize, sorghum, groundnut and safe handling and storage of seeds	223	76	14	8
03-06-11 01-06-2011-06/06/11	Kajo K. County	Payam level training on best practices on Maize, sorghum, groundnut and safe handling and storage of seeds	406	253	25	8
29-06-2011-1/7/11	Yei County	Payam level training on best practices on cassava production	197	43	15	8
30-06-2011-7/07/11	Morobo	Payam level training on best practices on cassava production	200	51	13	9
01-07-2011-7/07/11	Kajo K. County	Payam level training on best practices on cassava production	353	248	22	22
Grand-Total			1,578	725	130	65

Improved Agronomic Practice Trainings WES

Date	Location	Description of training	Beneficiaries by gender		Number of FBOs	Number of trainings
			Male	Female		
28-05-11	Mundri	ToT on best practices on Maize, sorghum, groundnut and safe handling and storage of seeds	33	17	18	1
30-05-11	Maridi	ToT on best practices on Maize, sorghum, groundnut and safe handling and storage of seeds	34	6	15	1
01-06-11	Yambio	ToT on best practices on Maize, sorghum, groundnut and safe handling and storage of seeds	50	6	18	1
01-07-11	Mundri	Payam level training on best practices on cassava production	155	71	20	6
29-06-11	Maridi	Payam level training on best practices on cassava production	274	97	20	20
01-07-11	Yambio	Payam level training on best practices on cassava production	219	342	20	11
Grand-Total			765	589	111	40

APPENDIX C – FARMER BASED ORGANIZATIONS

FBOs by county and payam				
CENTRAL EQUATORIA				
S/No	Name of the FBO	Payam	Boma	Members
Kajokeji County				
1	Lomeri Ti Dara	Lire	Likamerok	10
2	Pekido	Lire	Mekir	14
3	Bulit Kole	Lire	Likamerok	10
4	Morjita Farmers Group	Lire	Likamerok	10
5	Nga Ko Yi	Lire	Kudaji	10
6	Nedo	Lire	Mekir	13
7	Wuyundi ta Farmers Group	Lire	Kudaji	15
8	Wuyundi ta 2 Farmers Group	Lire	Kudaji	15
9	Ngongita Cooperatives	Lire	Mekir	151
10	Jalimo Growers	Kangapo 2	Jalimo	93
11	Ngarakita	Kangapo 2	Bori	20
12	Wukabo B	Kangapo 2	Bori	17
13	Ngotia 2 (KKCDA)	Kangapo 2	Bori	20
14	Nga Ko Yi 2	Kangapo 2	Bori	39
15	Lwokita	Kangapo 2	Bori	19
16	Lomeri Ti Dara Kita 2	Kangapo 2	Bori	24
17	Tiyu ko Yupet	Kangapo 2	Bori	9
18	Morokita	Kangapo 2	Bori	17
19	Toto na pai	Kangapo 2	Bori	27
20	Batakindi Mugun	Kangapo 2	Bori	22
21	Maradadi Growers	Kangapo 2	Kinyiba	112
22	Julukita	Kangapo 2	Kinyiba	20
23	Ngongi Taling Farmers Group	Kangapo 2	Bamurye	19
24	Mamajita Farmers Group	Kangapo 2	Bori	20
25	Yeyio	Kangapo 2	Bori (Azira Village)	14
26	Ngongita Farmers Group	Kangapo 2	Jalimo (Kilisok Village)	18
27	Meta Ko Konyen	Kangapo 2	Lagu	14

28	Evangelist Revival Farmers Group	Kangapo 2	Bori	43
29	Lomeri-dara-moro FG	Kangapo I	Sera Jale	16
30	Teme-ta-tem FG	Kangapo I	Kiri	16
31	Abongorikin Women's Group	Kangapo I	Kiri	20
32	UNIMACO	Kangapo I	Kiri	20
33	Morji-ta 2 Farmers Group	Kangapo I	Kiri	13
34	Ngun-kata New FG	Kangapo I	Sera Jale	15
35	3k-dev. Association Farmers Group	Kangapo I	Kiri	15
	Sub-total Group Members			930
Morobo County				
36	Gulumbi Cooperatives	Gulumbi	Kindi	45
37	Luku (new)	Gulumbi	Girili	19
38	Girili Farmers Group	Gulumbi	Girili	36
39	Kendila Cooperatives	Gulumbi	Kindi	49
40	Iraga Farmers Group	Gulumbi	Kindi	7
41	Luku Farmers Group	Gulumbi	Girili	12
42	Kimba Rice Growers	Kimba	Kimba	35
43	Kadope Farmers	Kimba	Kimba	12
44	Anika Farmers Group	Gulumbi	Kilikili	9
45	Loketa Cooperatives	Gulumbi	Kindi	25
46	Ajugi High Land	Wudabi	Aloto	17
47	Yugufe Farmers Group	Wudabi	Yugufe	28
48	Kembe Farmers Group	Wudabi	Kembe	14
49	Salongo Farmers Group	Wudabi	Aloto	4
50	Nyei Farmers Group	Wudabi	Wudabi	14
	Sub-total Group Members			326
Yei County				
51	Abulometa Women Group	Mugwo	Yari	33
52	Jambo ti Tela Farmers Group	Mugwo	Jambo	11
53	Jambo General Purpose Coop.	Mugwo	Jambo	15
53	Kojugale Farmers Group	Mugwo	Longamere	24
54	Lomi Farmer Farmers Group	Lasu	Tokori	6
55	Abuda Farmers Group	Lasu	Acholi	47
56	Jujumbita Farmers Group	Lasu	Tokori	14
57	Nga ko yi Farmers Group	Lasu	Tokori	10
58	Suruba Farmers Group	Lasu	Acholi	29
59	Lasu Farmers Progressive Association	Lasu	Lasu	17
60	Jabara Farmers Group	Lasu	Lasu	22
61	Dumo Cooperatives	Otogo	Mongo	41

62	Beacon of Hope	Otogo	Logo	24
63	Gire Kejiko	Otogo	Ombaci	8
64	Gire Kularima Farmers Group	Otogo	Ombaci	14
65	Gire Yeiba Farmers Group	Otogo	Ombaci	9
66	Sajo farmers association	ottogo	wottogo	18
67	Rubeke morijita association	ottogo	wottogo	11
68	Goli cereals and seed farm	lasu	tokori	11
69	Morjita	lasu	tokori	24
70	Ngun ko yi	ottogo	goza	10
	Sub-total Group Members			398
	WESTERN EQUATORIA			
	Yambio County			
1	Nakiri Multipurpose cooperative society	Yambio	Timbiro	14
2	Naangbimo Women Association	Yambio	Naangbimo	32
3	Ndavuro Farmers Group	Yambio	Ndavuro	26
4	Tindoka Multi-Purpose Association	Yambio	Yambogo	84
5	Ikpiro Womens Group	Yambio	Ikapiro	72
6	St. Mary Farmers Group	Yambio	Nagori	29
7	Kuzee Farmers Association	Yambio	Nagori	11
8	Gitikiri Farmers' Cooperative Society	Yambio	Bazungua	31
9	Navundio Multi-Purpose Cooperative Soc.	Yambio	Bodo	25
10	Makpara I Multi-Purpose Cooperative Soc.	Yambio	Bodo	46
11	Feed My Sheep Ministries	Yambio	Bazungua	35
12	Pazuo I Multipurpose Cooperative Society	Yambio	Yabongo	33
13	Akorogbodi Farmers Association	Yambio	Akorogbodi	9
14	Nangbende Farmers Group	Lirangu	Makpaturu	21
15	Baguga Multipurpose Cooperative Society	Yambio	Ngindo	10
16	Nagbaka Farmers Group	Yambio	Ngindo	12
17	Arona Multipurpose Cooperative Society	Lirangu	Momboi	14
18	Zambando Women Group	Yambio	Ngindo	15
19	Saura 2 Multipurpose Cooperative Society	Yambio	Saura	15
20	RD Farmers Association	Yambio	Yabongo	32
21	Namakuru Farmers Group	Yambio	Saura	22
22	Bazungua Farmers Association	Yambio	Bodo	18
23	Asanza Farmers Group	Yambio	Naangbimo	11
24	Makpandu Women Multipurpose Coop. Soc.	Bangasu	Remenze	21
25	Maboyoku Multipurpose Cooperative Soc.	Bangasu	Burezibo	25
26	Zambasenge Farmers Group	Ri-rangu	Mbambai	17
27	Makparturu Farmed Group	Ri-rangu	Ri-rangu	14

	Sub-total Group Members			694
	Mundri County			
1	Okari Farmers Group	Mundri	Mundri	13
2	Odra-Sako Farmers Group	Kotobi	Kotobi	18
3	Goda Farmers Group	Kotobi	Kotobi	7
4	Medewu Farmers Group	Kotobi	Medewu	24
5	Singowa Farmers Group	Kotobi	Medewu	25
6	Yanga General Purpose Cooperative Soc.	Kotobi	Karika	25
7	Abi Farmers Group	Kotobi	Karika	24
8	Lubani Farmers Group	Kotobi	Karika	22
9	Kuritingwa Farmers Group	Kotobi	Karika	26
10	Delegu Farmers Group	Kotobi	Karika	26
11	Kurugu Farmers Group	Kotobi	Karika	16
12	Pari Pari Farmers Group	Kotobi	Karika	13
13	Kati Farmers Group	Kotobi	Karika	18
14	Lobido Farmers Group	Kotobi	Karika	25
15	Okonganji Farmers Group	Kotobi	Karika	17
16	Tadua Farmers Group	Kotobi	Karika	16
17	Garambele Farmers Association	Kotobi	Karika	28
18	Achafo Farmers Group	Kotobi	Karika	28
19	Sarala Farmers Group	Kotobi	Karika	14
20	Kyedu Farmers Group	Kotobi	kotobi	16
21	Thigbogbo Farmers Group	Mundri	Mundri	20
23	Gorikpoco Farmers Group	Mundri	Mundri	14
24	Moroka Farmers Group	Kotobi	Bari	19
25	Adangu Farmers Group	Kotobi	kotobi	18
26	Troalo Farmers Group	Mundri	Mundri	28
27	Bonya Farmers Group	Kotobi	kotobi	16
28	Midi Agbandi Farmers Group	Kotobi	kotobi	27
	Sub-total Group Members			543
	Maridi County			
1	Kwanga Farmers Group	Maridi	Maridi	28
2	Kenapai Farmers Association	Maridi	Mboroko	30
3	Abiriko Farmers Group	Maridi	Nabaka	16
4	Sukulu Gaba Farmers Group	Landili	Dorlili	17
5	Oto (Mambe) Farmers Group	Mambe	Mambe	10
6	Rubu Farmers Group	Maridi	Nabaka	15
7	Malaga Farmers Group	Mambe	Malaga	17
8	Nanzere Farmers Group	Maridi	Nanzere	11

9	Toutin Farmers Group	Maridi	Mabirindi	12
10	Lalama 2 Primary Cooperative Society	Maridi	Maridi	27
11	Lalama 1 Farmers Group	Maridi	Maridi	16
12	Luru Multi-Purpose Cooperative Society	Maridi	Mabirindi	30
13	Mudubai Farmers Group	Maridi	Mudubai	18
14	Yokodoma 1 Primary Cooperative Society	Maridi	Mudubai	15
15	Bambu Farmers Group	Maridi	Mudubai	12
16	Landi Mame Farmers Group	Maridi	Mudubai	12
17	Tifino Farmers Group	Maridi	Mudubai	13
18	Mudubai 2 Farmers Group	Maridi	Mudubai	14
19	Kosolobar Farmers Groups	Maridi	Mudubai	15
20	Amgopale Farmers Group	Mambe	Longboa	22
	Sub-total Group Members			350
	EASTERN EQUATORIA			
	Magwi County			
1	Ndara Farmers Group	Pageri	Moli Tokuro	20
2	Moli Andu Farmers Group	Pageri	Moli Tokuro	10
3	Ama-Alu Farmers Group	Pageri	Pageri	60
4	Disa Limi Farmers Group	Pageri	Pageri	20
5	Meria Farmers Group	Pageri	Moli Andu	81
6	Gaga Matura Farmers Group	Pageri	Kerepi	20
7	Mutuvu Farmers Group	Pageri	Pageri	5
8	Afoyi Hill Womens Group	Pageri	Moli Tokuro	22
9	Ayee Pit Farmers' Cooperative Society	Magwi	Magwi	22
10	Iburu Konya Farmers Group	Magwi	Magwi	12
11	Women out of Conflict (WOC)	Magwi	Panyikwara Abara	20
12	Alwongi Rural Development Organization	Magwi	Obbo	13
13	Lerwa Women Association	Magwi	Obbo	21
14	Ribe Aye Teko Farmers Group	Parjok	Parjok	13
15	Pe Koyo Farmers Group	Parjok	Lawaci	23
16	Cing Lonyo Farmers' Cooperative Society	Magwi	Obbo	16
17	Gom Pat Pat Farmers' Cooperative Society	Magwi	Obbo	16
18	Lacan Pekun Farmers Group	Magwi	Obbo	16
19	Atek Kilwak Farmers Group	Magwi	Obbo	16
20	Obbo Mii Komi Farmers Group	Magwi	Obbo	20
21	Dii Cwinyi Women Group	Magwi	Obbo	40
22	Lonyo Tek Ki Lwak Farmers Group	Magwi	Obbo	20

23	Rac Keco Farmers Group	Magwi	Obbo	22
24	Ribe en Tek Farmers Group	Magwi	Obbo	20
25	Ama-omba Baba Farmers Group	Pageri	Opari	21
26	Lakiyo Farmers Group	Pageri	Loa	30
27	Mama Women Farmers Group	Pageri	Loa	29
28	Amandeku Women Farmers Group	Pageri	Kerepi	30
29	Koria Farmers Group	Pageri	Kerepi	20
30	Goliloso Farmers Group	Pageri	Opari	26
31	Mutala Dizalimi Farmer Group	Pageri	Kerepi	30
32	Envookotu Farnesr Group	Pageri	Kerepi	5
33	Bedo Bor Farmers Group	Magwi	Obbo	30
34	Peko Rom Farmers Group	Magwi	Obbo	20
35	Lomal Pol Women Farmers Group	Magwi	Abara	22
36	Atek ki lwak Two Farmers Group	Magwi	Panyikwara	39
37	Mak-kwere farmers group	Magwi	Abara	18
38	Gang en gang de yaa Farmers Group	Magwi	Abara	20
	Sub-total Group Members			888
	Ikwoto County			
1	Ingwa Tafha Farmers Group	Lomohidang N	Isohe	15
2	Ifune Farmers Group	Ikwoto	Ifune	22
3	Lokupere Farmers Group	Ikwoto	Ifuda	10
4	K. Longole farmers Group	Ikwoto	Ifuda	30
5	Morutore Farmers Group	Ikwoto	Ifune	21
6	Lobuho Farmers Group	Ikwoto	Ifuda	24
7	Imilai Farmers Group	Katire	Imilai	9
8	Seven Loaves Farmer Group	Katire	Imilai	10
9	Logir Farmers Cooperative	Lomohidang N.	Chahari	37
10	Nigoge Farmers Group	Katire	Gilo	23
11	Ngarije Farmers Group	Katire	Katire central	26
12	Hafai Farmers Group	Katire	Gilo	22
13	Muturi Farmers Group	Katire	Ishuhak	20
14	Chafi Chafi farmers group	Katire	Imilai	7
15	Lohulumen Chahari Farmers	Lomohidang N.	Chahari	15
16	Woroworo Lolith Farmers Group	Lomohidang N.	Ishohe	15
17	All Nations Christian Farmers	Katire	Imilai	8
	Sub-total Group Members			314
	Budi County			
1	Kato Farmers group	Komiri	Chukudum	50
2	CDS	Komiri	Chukudum	67

3	Konyokonyo	Komiri	Chukudum	22
4	Lohucha	Komiri	Chukudum	21
5	Nahichod	Nahichod	Nahichod hill	20
	Sub-total Group Members			180

